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Number I.

ABRIDGMENT

OF THE

MINUTES OF THE EVIDENCE,

TAKEN BEFORE A

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE,

TO WHOM IT WAS REFERRED TO CONSIDER OF THE

SLAVE-TRADE,

1789.

BRITISH MUSEUM
57

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TO WHOM IT WAS REFERRED TO CONSIDER OF THE

SLAVE-TRADE, 1789.

Witneſs Examined—JOHN BARNES, Eſq.

Governor of Senegal from 1763 to 1766. Thirteen years in Africa, (p. 21). Negro government with which he was acquainted, in general, a kind of mixed monarchy. 1789. P. 5.

There have been ſlaves in all Africa, as far back as he has heard of; they become ſo by capture in war (not a great proportion, p. 8.), by conviction for theft, murder, adultery, witchcraft; alſo for debt. Has been told of many by gambling. Polygamy univerſally allowed. Witchcraft frequently charged; the trial always full and fair, before the elders of the town. Underſtood principals were put to death, reſt of the family made ſlaves. Does not believe it poſſible, that crimes ſhould have been imputed, from the fairneſs and openneſs of the trial. Perſons convicted generally ſold for the benefit of the party injured. P. 6.

1789. Never heard of princes going to war, or breaking up villages, to make ſlaves. Make war there as in
P. 8. other countries. If priſoners cannot ranſom themſelves, muſt be ſold.

Never knew of kidnapping by blacks; is confident it would not paſs unpuniſhed.

People in the country poſſeſs ſlaves; ſome an incredible number. Believes they have not any power over their lives, except priſoners of war in the act of capture.

P. 9. Great numbers brought by ſlave-merchants from interiour parts. Much trade in ſlaves to North Barbary and Egypt. Neighbourhood of coaſts and rivers extremely populous. War is very little deſtructive (as he always underſtood from the natives, p. 18.)

Senegal furniſhes from 1000 to 1400 ſlaves.

Believes, but for ſlavery, the laws would be more ſanguinary.

Senegal, beſides ſlaves, produces gum; Gambia a little bees-wax. Windward coaſt a few dying woods; all over the coaſt a little ivory. Trade in theſe articles could not be increaſed; nothing elſe worth mentioning. The country capable of producing all Weſt Indian products; but the inhabitants too indolent to cultivate them. Does not believe it practicable to obtain thoſe products from thence.

P. 10. Not worth while to bring down ivory, but when carried by ſlaves. Very fine cotton grown for home uſe; could never obtain any great quantity.

P. 11. Knows the coaſt to the river Sherbro; no landing heavy goods, except within the rivers; believes no ſafe landing between Sherbro and Benin; all open coaſt for 300 or 400 leagues. Between Benin and Bonny, 40 or 50 leagues; ſome ſmall rivers in which a landing may be made.

P. 12. The prince who can ſell the ſlave, can certainly require labour of him.

Increaſing the number of cultivators of cotton, would proportionably increaſe the produce.

If

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If European goods could not be had for ſlaves, 1789.
the princes would be induced to require labour of
their people; but is confident could not ſo obtain
goods; becauſe cotton only would bear the carriage;
and vegetation liable to be deſtroyed by locuſts. All P. 13.
property inſecure, from the imperfection of govern-
ment. Chiefs averſe to attempt induſtry: does not P. 14.
believe the prince could ſecure the produce of the
lands diſtant from the towns.

The people have each their little diſtricts for the year only; the property as ſecure as it can be in a very looſe and imperfect government.

Theft puniſhed generally by fine, as far as the value of the perſon of the thief, (ſometimes 10 or 20 ſlaves, p. 17, or 30, p. 20.)

The mines, he has heard, are conſidered as depoſit P. 15.
of ſacred treaſure, to be had recourſe to only on par-
ticular occaſions: ſpeaks particularly of Galam, and
believes the ſame of Bambarena.

Between Senegal and Gambia, the women (even of the higheſt ſituations, p.) amuſe themſelves with ſpinning cotton of their own growth. Profeſſed weavers (ſometimes their own ſlaves, p.) weave
the cloth for hire. No other mechanicks but ſmiths, P. 16.
who make coarſe hammers, adzes, and gold ear-rings
for the ladies. Houſes of reeds, or mud thatched.
Nobility and free people ranked between the prince
and the labourer. No improvement in civilization
during his 13 years reſidence. Obſtructions to it
the ſame as among the American ſavages. When in
Africa, during the war of 1756, fewer ſhips arrived,
ſlaves were conſequently cheaper. Underſtood that
thoſe which remained on hand were ſent to North
Barbary and Egypt; no attempt was made to ſet P. 17.
them at work. The ſlave-trade always carried on
openly between ſhips and the natives.

In 1758 and 1761 (p. 27) very terrible mortality occurred in two King's ſhips (the London, buſs; the Union, hoy; and Goree, ſloop, p. 27) at Senegal, while he was there; inſomuch that they were

1789. forced to man them with hired negroes, of which there are great numbers at Senegal. (p. 20.)

In merchant-men mortality greateſt when up rivers; on open coaſt as healthy as other ſhips between the Tropics.

P. 18. Slaves in Africa pretty well treated; allowed to marry, but with their maſter's conſent; puniſhed for ſlight offences with ſtripes at diſcretion; children well treated. For greater crimes generally ſold as ſlaves, with conſent of their fellow-ſervants; ſpeaks of the practice, not the right of the maſter; believes it a practice of prudence; for were he to treat his ſlaves arbitrarily or cruelly, he would loſe them by deſertion.

Wars very irregular. Buſh-fighting. About 150 leagues inland they uſe fire-arms, furniſhed by the Europeans and Moors; beyond that, bows; and every where the javelin.

P. 19. The people of North Barbary come and buy ſlaves, and carry them back a diſtance of 10 degrees; a great part of that diſtrict an uninhabited deſart, taking proviſions with them, even water. Houſe-ſlaves never ſold but for crimes. Slaves near the coaſt, who ſee Europeans, do not conceive the transfer from African to European ſlavery to be a hardſhip; they know where they are going, and for what purpoſe; the only hardſhip is the being ſeparated from their family. But ſlaves from interior parts are terrified at being put into the hands of people of different colour, not knowing for what purpoſe.—Aſked, if the being ſold to the Europeans, be not conſidered as a hardſhip; has the dread of it any effect in pre-

P. 20. venting crimes?—Replied, only where they have a family; and the ſhame of tranſportation, though they do not dread it, is ſtill a puniſhment. (p. 30.) Does not think domeſtic attachments are ſo ſtrong, as where polygamy is not allowed.

Were the ſlave-trade aboliſhed by the Britiſh, the African princes might no doubt be ſupplied with

European

European goods by other Europeans carrying on the trade. 1789.

Believes, that while it is poſſible for thoſe princes to get European goods for ſlaves, through any channel, they would not be induced to acquire them by the improved induſtry of their ſubjects.

His evidence, when he mentions Senegal, relates to that only. In his general evidence, his meaning goes as far as he has been, on the Windward coaſt, as far as Sherbro.

About half the ſlaves exported from Senegal, natives of the coaſt; and half from the interior country. P. 21.

The making ſlaves in the lower country, fell more within his knowledge. He had the mode of making ſlaves in the interior country from hear-ſay, from the moſt reſpectable travellers through thoſe countries (generally prieſts, p. 23.) who gave him no information about their government, materially different from that of the ſea coaſt, with which he was acquainted. P. 22.

Has underſtood, criminals, in interior countries, are tried by the elders openly. Does not undertake to ſay, there are no unjuſt convictions; but believes juſtice is generally fairly adminiſtered. The judge has no advantage in the iſſue of trials.

Conceives the interior countries, of which he ſpeaks, to be the ſame with thoſe which furniſh ſlaves to the reſt of the coaſt, as far as Benin, namely, Bambarena, &c. P. 23.

Has underſtood, that many ſlaves from thoſe countries, are priſoners of war: they never told him of perſons being kidnapped.

The cauſes he has mentioned, as preventing the exportation of proviſions, apply to the countries between, and bordering on, Senegal and Gambia. A little rice is raiſed by the natives in thoſe countries, but more toward Sherbro. Has always known rice purchaſed by the ſhips; though ſometimes they find it difficult to get enough.

The

1789. The little gold which is bought by the Europeans, is got in the mines; and, upon the Gold Coaſt, he
P. 24. underſtood it was collected by waſhing the ſands in rivulet. The mines belongs to the diſtricts, and are under the controul of the prince and the prieſt. The gold is bought with European goods, but always expended again on the coaſt.

P. 25. During the war, the number of ſhips to Africa was leſſened; but the demand for African produce, gold, wax, ivory, and cam-wood, was always very great; in the pooreſt ſtate of the trade, infinitely greater than the ſupply.

The ſlaves are employed in inland commerce and agriculture.

P. 26. Is confident priſoners of war, and convicts, would not be put to raiſe cotton, if they were not ſold to the Europeans. Does not believe the abolition of the ſlave trade would make any difference in the people's induſtry.

There are no public roads; many horſes between Senegal and Gambia, but they are never uſed for draft or burden. Land-carriage is totally impracticable.

Never heard of any rice ſouthward of the Windward Coaſt.

In Senegal and Gambia, the ſlaves of black maſters are very well fed (except in famines) with corn, fleſh and fiſh. They are not worked for any regular time, nor conſtantly, and never under the whip.

P. 27. There is no landing-place between Sherbro and the Bite of Benin, fit for landing and ſhipping goods, without great danger. A great deal of ſlave trade in that diſtance. At the ſeveral factories there are landing-places, but very unſafe ones. He has heard the anchorage is ſafe on all that coaſt. Has never heard of ſhips being loſt by ſtreſs of weather on the Gold Coaſt; becauſe the wind is always along, or off ſhore. For the ſame reaſon ſhips can put to ſea at pleaſure.

Senegal

Senegal is now in the hands of the French, and 1789.
we have no acceſs to it.

All he ſays of the Gold Coaſt, is from informa- P. 28.
tion.

He has not ſeen an inſtance of the Tetanus.

For the reaſons why fewer females than males are ſent out of Africa, he refers to his evidence before the Privy Council.

The puniſhment for adultery attaches both on the P. 29.
man and the woman.

Men have wives in proportion to their quality and P. 30.
opulence. The firſt wife bearing a child, is conſidered as the chief one. Believes the marriage ceremony takes place with every wife.

Knows the Moors on the northern ſhore of the Senegal do not croſs the river to catch the negroes. Aſſerts this, from his intimate knowledge of the country, and correſpondence with the chiefs, page 32.

The African owner holds one deſcription of ſlaves as merchandize; another, the domeſtic, he cannot ſell but for crimes.

The Africans are fond of European goods, only P. 31.
as far as their neceſſities require.

In the earlier period of the African trade, beads, &c. were much uſed, but it is now generally reduced to a demand for neceſſaries. He is moſt confident, the natives would rather go without thoſe goods, than raiſe produce to procure them.

Trials for witchcraft generally ſecret. He does not know of any fair trial for it.

Does not believe it is the practice to aſk thoſe who P. 32.
offer ſlaves for ſale, how they procured them.

Between Senegal and Gambia, the inhabitants wear clothing, chiefly of their own manufacture, and of cotton of their own growth. He never knew them have more cotton than they want. With great pains he never could get more than a few pounds. He might have obtained a few cloths at a very high price. Has known two cloths, 3 yards long, 1½ yard wide, valued at two ſlaves. They are very ſel- P. 33.
dom

1789. dom an article of ſale, hence their dearneſs. The natives manufacture them for themſelves. Believes their high price ariſes chiefly from the indolence of the people. The pooreſt female ſlave may have two coarſe cloths, which may ſerve her for a year. They never wear more than two at a time; one over the ſhoulders, and one round the waiſt. The opulent will have changes; but does not think the conſumption exceeds two for each yearly. Women of the higheſt condition ſpin, alſo their ſlaves. Profeſſed weavers, ſometimes their own ſlaves, weave it. Does
P. 34. not believe the ſlaves who, by their maſter's command, manufacture the cloths; would, if ordered, raiſe cotton. It is the labour of women and children, except the weaving.

Has never known women do field-work; ſpeaks this of the country between Senegal and Gambia.

Very little wood got from that country. He once imported ſome very bad ebony, and loſt by it; alſo ſome coarſe mahogany, dearer than it would have been here. Knows much ebony could not be got. Believes more mahogany might; but not at a ſaleable price. He has not known wood imported from that part before he did it. Thinks he has heard, that the African company made an unſucceſsful attempt of this kind. The wood he imported was chiefly cut down by the ſeamen, and ſome of it by the ſlaves of a white trader. Does not believe thoſe ſlaves would have obeyed their maſter, had he ordered them to cultivate cotton; becauſe the one is only a ſervice of ſhort duration, to which they would have ſubmitted, to gratify him. Were the cutting of wood conſtant, they would not do that neither.

P. 35. The native ſmiths, free or ſlaves, make a clumſy hoe, axe and knife. There are iron ores in Galam; the high lands of S. Leone, ſeemed entirely iron ore; but the natives know not its uſe.

Is

Is not clear, but believes that the natives, both free and ſlaves, raiſe rice. The ſame countries produce rice and cotton. The ſlaves obey their maſters in raiſing both, as far as is neceſſary to the family. Rice (which grows by the water edge, p. 36.) is brought to the ſhips in canoes. 1789.

Witneſs examined,—RICHARD MILES, Eſq.

Was eighteen years and a half in the company's ſervice on the Gold Coaſt, from 1765 to 1784. For the firſt ten years commanded at moſt of the ſubordinate poſts. For the laſt ſeven lived at Cape Coaſt Caſtle, and commanded the whole; was abſent about twenty-ſix months of that time. P. 37.

Gold Coaſt extends from Cape La Hou, to the River Volta, about 400 miles.

Has been at Senegal, Goree, Gambia, and Sierra Leone.

Underſtood the Gold Coaſt language perfectly. P. 38.

His evidence confined to the water-ſide; knows nothing of the interior country; except once, when he was twenty miles inland; does not believe he was ever five miles from the coaſt.

The Gold Coaſt generally petty ſtates; knows but of one deſpotic monarchy there at Apellonia, which may be eight or ten miles of coaſt, (p. 47.)

Believes ſlavery has been practiſed in thoſe countries for centuries.

The Fantees on the water-ſide provide near one-fourth of the ſlaves purchaſed by us on the Gold Coaſt; the other three-fourths from inland (p. 41.) believes the whole from 7 to 8000. P. 39.

1789. Slaves are ſold by black brokers to Europeans.

They are made ſlaves for theft, debt, adultery, and witchcraft. They have as fair trials, according to the laws, as elſewhere. Trials for witchcraft are generally in the night; but, from generally ſeeing all ſatisfied, except the culprits, concludes the trials fair. Cannot ſay there are no exceptions; believes many; knows ſome. Principals in witchcraft are ſacrificed; the reſt generally ſold. Commonly the whole family ſuffer ſlavery; but here alſo are ſome exceptions.

P. 40. The pynims, judges or elders, in the deſpotic country, are more dependant on the king's will, than on other parts of the coaſt.

Convicts ſold for the benefit of the injured. Has known thouſands of debtors ſold for the benefit of creditors. Does not think crimes imputed to make ſlaves; unleſs witchcraft comes under that deſcription. Judges have a fee at inſtituting ſuits; but believes they have no benefit from convictions.

P. 41. Thinks wars unfrequent; but where they happen, priſoners may be ſold. But he generally found that on ſkirmiſhes (for he admits not wars) between towns, the difference is made up by mediation, and the priſoners exchanged; except that a man or family cauſing a quarrel, is ſold.

Some have gold in conſiderable quantities; but a man, ſpeaking of his property, ſpeaks of his ſlaves; every thing elſe is ſecondary.

Does not know he ever heard the word kidnapping mentioned out of this country. It cannot be practiſed to any extent, without certain detection; for the natives have one general language, and the brokers have daily intercourſe with the ſhipping. Hence a kidnapped ſlave on board would tell his caſe to the brokers, who, from intereſt and regard to the laws, would find out the offender.

P. 42. Has no doubt human ſacrifices are generally practiſed; has had occular proof of it; many thouſands

are

are ſacrificed at great mens funerals; (to which ſuch ſacrifices are chiefly confined, p. 63.) every one who knows the language, know this to be general. 1789.

Knows of no acts of oppreſſion, but by the king of Apollonia; nor of any committed by the Europeans, unleſs in one or two inſtances; in which he believes the offenders have been puniſhed in this country.

Skirmiſhes, ſo far from increaſing the number of ſlaves, the priſoners are generally exchanged.

Thinks the Gold Coaſt leſs favourable to culture than any other part; except a ſmall part between Accra and the river Volta. P. 43.

Very ſmall quantities of gold and ivory, he conceives, could be procured. A ſhip of 100 tons would carry twice as much ivory as the Gold Coaſt affords in a year (p. 60.) A very ſmall boat would carry all the gold that could be got. P. 44.

When a broker has ſlaves, he generally endeavours to get ivory for them to bring down.

No navigable river on the Gold Coaſt, except the ſmall one at Chama, a Dutch ſettlement; and he is doubtful, if even its mouth will admit veſſels. What little he has ſeen of the country is an impenetrable wood.

Moſt of the landings at the forts are very dangerous from the ſurf. He knows of no bay or harbour capable of admitting a ſhip of burden; ſhips generally lie two or three miles from ſhore; conceives this would be a great drawback on the value of produce ſhipped.

Should be ſorry to attempt to colonize that country; the natives, and, ſtill more the climate, would oppoſe you.

Never knew the Gold Coaſt produce grain or cotton for exportation, except Indian corn ſold to the ſhips: the quantity depends on that of the proviſions they carry from Europe. The corn to the windward is different.

1789. Never knew of dye-wood on the Gold Coaſt; cannot ſay there is none; but thinks if there had been any ſome of it would have paſſed through his hands. Wood grows there much like wainſcot.

While he was there, the Dutch, Danes, and
P. 45. Portugueze, a few French, and a very conſiderable number of Americans, traded for ſlaves. The French had then no ſettlement there; underſtands they now have, or are building one; but their trade there is now conſiderable, not with the natives, but with our
P. 46. ſhips. The Americans traded very conſiderably on that coaſt, on the firſt going, and till the war. Underſtands that they have taken it up again; and that ſeveral of their ſhips are now there, chiefly from Boſton; but he doubts not they will ſoon have ſhips from other ports.

The Slave-Trade might certainly be attempted to be reſumed, if it were given up for a few years; but he thinks it would be very impolitick to relinquiſh it.

The climate is generally very fatal to Europeans; though he enjoyed his health. Believes thoſe on ſhore are more unhealthy than thoſe on board ſhip.

Believes land is generally ſo plenty, that every one takes what he likes, and is not invaded till he reaps his crop.

P. 47. In moſt towns, on the Gold Coaſt, there is a Palaver-houſe, or Court of Juſtice, where the judges or elders (few under the age of 60 or 70) hear the parties, openly, for theft and adultery. But he conceives the trial for witchcraft to be a ſort of ſecret religious buſineſs, which they conceal. Only a very few are ſold for witchcraft.

P. 48. Not one in 100 of the ſlaves exported are natives of Apollonia. The late king took more pleaſure in killing than ſelling his ſlaves; he was a great warrior and monſter; he was many years at war with the Dutch, who attempted to take his country, which he ceded to us in 1765; believes many thouſands were loſt on both ſides.

He

He does not believe affection is very predominant in the breaſts of the negroes; but rather otherwiſe; can give no particular reaſon. He is ſure they do not look upon exile as the greateſt calamity; is certain that they do not expect to be ſacrificed in the Weſt-Indies. 1789. P. 48. P. 49.

Thinks they would have the ſame right to oppoſe a ſettlement on their land, as a Weſt-India planter would on his.

Never knew a ſingle inſtance of ſeizing their perſons.

All his live and dead ſtock was bought from the natives.

Rice and millet do not grow on the Gold Coaſt.

Thinks the freemen on the water-ſide may be to the ſlaves annually exported from the water-ſide as 100 to one; (p. 51.) ſuppoſes the ſlaves exported from the water-ſide are moſtly domeſtics.

Often a convict's family redeem him with a ſlave; if not, he is ſold. That ſlave is from the inland country; of whom moſt people of conſequence have ſome. A towns-man on the coaſt, to redeem his ſon, &c. if he cannot get a ſlave any other way, will buy one from the Europeans. P. 50.

The women moſtly cultivate the land, and do the houſe drudgery; the men are chiefly fiſhermen, ſome are huntſmen; but fiſh is the great article of trade.

He knows not of any manufacture on the Gold Coaſt. In moſt villages there is an aukward ſort of a blackſmith, their only tradeſman. In the towns the Europeans have ſhops; the natives none.

Believes a convict's family are not ſold, except for witchcraft. P. 51.

He conſiders domeſtic ſlaves as freemen, from having all their advantages; but it is difficult to aſcertain who the domeſtic ſlaves in a family are.

Gueſſes there might be more than one, two, or three villages, with 3 or 4000 inhabitants, within five miles of his reſidence. P. 52.

The

1789. The brokers generally ſell the ſlaves from the inland parts, who make ¾ of the whole, as ſoon as they can, to ſave expenſe of feeding and riſk of
P. 53. mortality. They do not employ them. The other ¼ are generally ſold juſt after they are made ſlaves, &c. He has known brokers keep ſlaves on hand, to raiſe the price. Convicts are generally confined till ſold.

He who receives a ſlave, in exchange for a convict, may uſe him as he pleaſes; he may ſell him to the Europeans, or incorporate him among his domeſtics; ſuppoſes ſuch are generally ſold to the ſhipping.

For debt and adultery, it is common, and ſometimes for theft, to exchange another ſlave for him
P. 54. condemned. Believes it is ſtipulated, that an adulterer, with the king's, or a great man's wife, ſhall not live in the country.

Convicts for witchcraft are generally put to death, as victims, immediately after the ſentence. There is very little opportunity of knowing what paſſes in thoſe caſes: but he generally underſtood, that they put one, or more to death, to appeaſe the injured. The number ſold or killed for witchcraft is very trifling. Trials for witchcraft being ſecret, in the night, their ſituation can be known only from the ſellers, or the convicts, who, not conſidering it diſgraceful, make no ſecret of what they were ſold for.

P. 55. It is not the practice to aſk the ſeller, or the ſlave, what was his crime; he ſhould not have aſked it, had he known the language. Thoſe of inland ſlaves are different, and wholly unintelligible to Europeans.

Having often miſſed a man or woman out of a town, he has been told by the town's people, they had been condemned for witchcraft. Witchcraft attaching to the whole family, none of that family remain to redeem the convict: but believes it is not unuſual for ſome of the younger children to be ſpared. Perſons ſo condemned, are ſold under expreſs agreement, that they ſhall not be put on ſhore again. Should the European redeem ſuch, he would ſuffer very

very materially. Being conſidered as dangerous, 1789.
they are generally hurried out of the country the
moment after conviction. He has not a doubt, that, P. 57.
in the total abſence of ſhipping, they would all
ſuffer death.

Few of the 2000 ſlaves furniſhed by the coaſt are priſoners of war. The Fantees, on the water-ſide, were in peace almoſt all his time. There was a ſerious war between the Fantees and Aſhantees, the two moſt powerful nations we know of, ſhortly after his arrival, for a year or more. It was an inland war, cauſed, he believes, by the Aſhantees wiſhing for part of the coaſt; thinks he can confidently ſay, it was not cauſed or prolonged for making ſlaves; it ſeemed to put a ſtop to the ſale of ſlaves. Believes, in the ſkirmiſhes near his reſidence, the priſoners were redeemed in 19 caſes out of 20.

Conceives that many are ſold for theft, fewer for adultery, and the feweſt for debt.

Three-fourths of the whole are not confined; being from inland, the black broker is not afraid of their deſerting. The men of the other one-fourth have their wriſts faſtened to a log 25 or 30lb. weight.

The natives like European goods very well; but do not like to pay too dear for them, preferring their own gold.

Has generally found ſo little induſtry in them, P. 59.
that he thinks, they would not endeavour to raiſe produce, to procure European goods; but he does not aſſert this as fact. Though the ſhips buy all the corn for ſale, yet many are obliged to make up what they want, at the neighbouring iſlands. This demand is pretty certain; the natives know the number of European ſettlers, and of ſhips expected. If they were diſpoſed to induſtry, he knows of no market for the corn, and the few vegetables they raiſe.

Near the water-ſide it is very rocky; except ſome P. 60.
ſpots. Where he was, (once 20 miles inland) the ſoil is ſo rocky, that it could not produce much elſe than

1789. than Indian corn. There is no inland water communication, no beaſts of burden, (p. 61.) and the ſhipping of bulky articles, except at one ſeaſon of the year, would be very dangerous and expenſive.

Suppoſes the inhabitants would not be fond of employing the native ſlaves and thoſe for ſale in agriculture. It would be as dangerous as ſo employing convicts in England (p. 61, 65, 68.)

They have all their clothing from Europe; not a yard of cloth is made on the Gold coaſt. To leeward of the river Volta, he underſtands, they uſe indigo; (and bring it to great perfection, p. 70) but not that he remembers on the Gold Coaſt.

P. 61. Believes he ſaw 3 or 4 Arabian horſes while he was there. He imported horſes, but they did not live.

For the laſt 10 years of his reſidence, he ſaw almoſt every ſhip ſail, (that had finiſhed her buſineſs, p. 63.) When a ſhip happened to ſail at night, it was to take the benefit of an early land-wind; but moſt ſhips ſail from 5 to 11 A. M. (p. 64.)

He is conſiderably concerned in the Slave-Trade: ſhould have ſaid that at firſt, had he not been convinced, that it would not influence his evidence.

P. 62. If a cloth 2 yards ſquare is called clothing, they are all clothed.

Families generally plant corn and a few vegetables, which, with fiſh (a great article of their trade) form the chief of their food.

Moſt freemen in the towns have 2, 3, or more ſlaves, who cut fire-wood for the ſhipping, by their order. If a ſlave of his diſobeyed him, he ſold him; and ſuppoſes a free native would do the ſame.

P. 63. The factory ſlaves and their forefathers have been handed down from time to time; and now are moſtly born ſlaves.

The Gold Coaſt produces cotton, which might be cultivated; but it would be difficult to get the natives to do it. He planted the only pieces of cotton

ton he ever ſaw there, which might be the ſize of the floor of this houſe. The natives would not gather it, though offered ten times its value. Doubtleſs they received for ſlaves the ſame articles he offered. 1789.

Does not ſuppoſe his having redeemed ſome ſlaves from ſacrifice, had much effect on the practice; it leſſened the number in that inſtance.

Has generally heard ſuits for witchcraft have taken place on the ſudden unaccountable death of the ſlave's maſter or miſtreſs. P. 64.

Cannot ſuppoſe couples are ſo conſtant there, as where a man has only one wife. If wives have money to pay the forfeit, they generally follow their inclinations. Men and women convicted of adultery, redeem themſelves, or forfeit liberty. Says, from much experience, as many females as males could not be had. He has bought ſome hundreds—ſome thouſands. P. 65.

He never buried 10 ſlaves, young and old.

Cannot ſay, whether the free natives are ſubject to Tetanus.

They have no puniſhment that he knows of, but death and ſlavery, (p. 69.)

No doubt the large canoès which carry off ſlaves, might carry off produce.

The land may be cultivated; but this removes not the general inconvenience of the rocks. Does not ſuppoſe 1000th part of the land capable of producing corn, yams, &c. is cultivated. Cotton will grow there, and does grow wild. Rice has often been unſucceſsfully tried; it is peculiar to another part of Africa. P. 66.

Believes ſlaves generally require maſters at their heels; and ſo would free men.

Admits his evidence before the Privy Council as fact (p. 71.) P. 67.

It often happens that 1 ſlave in a lot of 8 or 10 is refuſed, for ſome little defect, though otherwiſe ſtrong. He has generally found ſuch importunate

1789. to be bought, and endeavouring to ſhow himſelf as capable of labour as the reſt. Generally nine-tenths of all he has bought ſeemed pleaſed at exchanging Black for White maſters. Believes their
P. 68. joy ariſes from removing from a ſituation, where they think their lives in danger, from being ſubſervient to their maſter's will. Maſters put ſlaves to death in their rites; and probably in caſes unknown to Europeans. He cannot ſpeak to the cauſe ſo well as to the fact.

P. 69. The Europeans are, at all times, ready to buy ſlaves offered to them.

An inland country, between Accra and the river Volta, makes a trifling number of cloths, which being brought to Accra, may have given riſe to the idea that they are made there.

P. 79. Has been told by judges that the wild indigo, between Accra and the river Volta, is very inferiour to that of other parts.

Mr. Baggs's evidence is a mere burleſque of the cultivation of Africa. He admits that from Accra to the river Volta is level and more fertile than the reſt of the Gold Coaſt; the difference between that and other parts of Africa deſcribed by him very ſtriking;
P. 71. but thinks Mr. Baggs paints it in too high colours.

May have ſtated that indigo grew wild about Accra; but remembers not to have ſaid, it was in uſe; nor has he ſeen in the book (viz. The Privy Council Report) that part of his evidence. If there ſtated, as part of his evidence, he does not recollect having ſeen it. Certainly had an opportunity of reviſing the minutes.

P. 72. Does not know that princes keep women to breed ſlaves for ſale.

Witneſs

Witneſs Examined— KNOX,

Has been between 7 and 8 years commander of an African ſhip (firſt as maſter 1782, p. 77.)—not now—but likely to be again. About an equal time ſurgeon of an African ſhip. Is acquainted with the Windward Coaſt, more particularly; the Grain Coaſt, and Angola. Five or ſix voyages on the Windward Coaſt, the laſt for 33 months. 1789. P. 73.

Governments on the Grain Coaſt are ſmall ſocieties very looſely joined, where a few, for ſafety, find it convenient to aſſemble for buſineſs. Each is the king and prieſt of his houſe, and is reſpected according to his wealth. Theſe judge of crimes, and are entitled to reſpect when aſſembled (p. 85.) He knows of no law binding them to mutual defence. Hence depredations are general. Such is the looſe government there. P. 74.

The Grain Coaſt extends from Sherbro to Cape Palmas.

As far as he has ſeen, a very ſmall way inland, it is very populous indeed.

It is very low, and, in the rains, much of it overflowed. Apprehends it is unhealthy.

Slavery is univerſal (ſee p. 76.) The ſlaves very numerous ſometimes. Bought by Europeans from the native brokers between thoſe who bring them from inland and the ſhips. He apprehends nine-tenths of the ſlaves come from inland, the other one-tenth from the ſmall diſtrict on the beach. That one-tenth made ſlaves for adultery, witchcraft, theft, and ſometimes debt, and priſoners of war. Believes domeſticks are not ſold but for crimes. P. 75.

Trials are fair and open, except thoſe for witchcraft, which are ſecret. Other crimes are generally

1789. puniſhed by ſlavery; but the principals, in witch-craft, are generally ſtrangled and then burnt. The reſt of the family are made ſlaves.

The north of the river Sherbro produces cam-wood; the ſouth, malaguetta pepper; the whole rice, and ſome little ivory.

P. 76. Has made 3 voyages to Angola, and always lived on ſhore.

That part of Angola we trade to, governed by a king, under many ſevere reſtrictions.

Slaves ſent from Angola, like moſt other places, generally come from inland; the reſt from the kingdom on the beach. They become ſlaves for the ſame crimes, as in other parts. Trials fair and open before the princes of the blood, ſometimes the king. The party aggrieved has the benefit of con-

P. 77. victs. It is the ſame on the Grain Coaſt.

The part of Angola we trade to is very ſmall. In a larger ſenſe, it takes in Loango St. Paul's, and extends about 5 degrees.

It produces red or barwood, and a little ivory: knows of nothing elſe. A very few ſhips have been in the barwood trade: believes in nothing elſe.

In his firſt voyage as maſter (of the Fairy of Liverpool, p. 103) in 1782, had 45 men, more than one-half landmen: ſeamen not then to be got. Out between 6 and 7 months. Loſt none. Had

P. 78. 450 negroes on board, of whom he loſt 17 or 18. Tons 108, perhaps more. Voyage was to Angola and Tortola (where arrived June 1783, p. 103.) Second voyage in ſame ſhip to Angola and Dominica. Out about 14 months, more than 7 on the coaſt, from the number of Frenchmen then there. Crew 33 or or 34: remembers not going to ſea, but that more than one-half (always one-half, p. 79.) were landmen. Loſt 4 of fevers. Purchaſed about 320 negroes, and loſt near 40, from the length of the purchaſe, and the want of their natural food, which that country never affords for negroes exported.

P. 79. Third voyage in the ſame ſhip, to C. Mount, on the Grain

Grain Coaſt, and Dominica. Had 34 men. Sent the ſhip off, with 25 of the men he took out, after he had been 17 months on the coaſt. He was in all 33 months: 3 were officers who ſtaid with him, 3 were loſt in craft, and 3 died of fevers. Left the coaſt, as captain of a ſhip (Lark of Liverpool, p. 104.) Jan. 1788. Had on board 290 negroes, and loſt 1. (Arrived in W. Indies, Feb. 1788, p. 104.) 1789.

Believes heavy articles cannot be ſhipped or land- P. 80.
ed, on the Windward Coaſt, from the heavy, conſtant, and univerſal ſurf. Rice is brought generally in very ſmall baſkets, in canoes, and is very generally wet. He often could not get enough of rice.

Knows of no dye-woods near C. Mount. River Sherbro produces much camwood, and no where elſe, that he knows, in the diſtrict. Wax here unknown: the whole produces ſome ivory, malaguetta pepper in one part, and rice over the whole. Thinks our market overſtocked with camwood and barwood. Apprehends it impoſſible to extend the ivory trade in this place.

On the Wood Coaſt eaſt of Sherbro there is no P. 81.
river where a boat of 4 or 5 feet water could go 12 miles up.

Never knew nor heard of kidnapping.

Slaves on board are, moſt aſſuredly, treated humanely. Rice is a principal article of their food on the Windward Coaſt, alſo caſſada, palm-oil, many glutinous herbs, pepper; on the coaſt often fiſh. When rice enough cannot be got, ſhips carry out beans and ſtock-fiſh; and from Africa, palm-oil, pepper, ſheep, goats, fowls. The beans are generally ſplit, but has ſeen them otherwiſe. Never knew ſlaves on board without plenty of food. It is almoſt the ſole employment of the officers to ſerve P. 82.
them. The natives of Angola live on caſſada, fiſh, and a little Indian corn. Angola affording no food, ſhips always carry out beans, and he always called

at

1789. at the Wood Coaſt for rice, when to be got (ſee p. 93.) Never ſaw the negroes want water on the paſſage. Ships from the Windward Coaſt ſometimes water at S. Leone; though all ſhips employ the natives to bring water. They conſtantly take about one gallon per head per day, for two months, but generally 10 weeks, from the Windward Coaſt. The paſſage being more certain from Angola, leſs water is ſuppoſed ſufficient.

The men are generally in irons (a right and left leg and arm, p. 85) the women never. (This is the caſe in moſt ſhips, p. 106.) Many take off the irons only when they reach the W. Indies. Others, of
P. 82. whom he was one, when they leave the coaſt, (ſee p. 109.)

P. 83. Generally ſhips can only ſail very early in the morning when the land breeze blows. They may ſail along the G. Coaſt; but cannot well get from it any other time. A ſignal for ſailing always flying 3 or 4 weeks before. A few mornings before ſailing, a gun is daily fired. The natives know theſe ſignals.

In good weather, the ſlaves are on deck all day, and the grown ones below at night. Many of the younger ones run where they pleaſe night and day. Never ſuppoſed one died from crowding. Trade-wind, they go from under the gratings to keep from cold.

Every attention is paid to the ſick. For his 6 voyages as ſurgeon he viſited them 3 or 4 times in the night. All ſhips are amply ſupplied with medicines, ſago, wine, &c. Cleanlineſs, fumigations, &c. and above all, freſh air ſupplied.

P. 84. Never knew repellents uſed to make ſlaves up for ſale. (Never uſed them himſelf, nor heard of their being uſed, p. 110.) The whites' health particularly attended to. The greateſt mortality falls on landmen from being unſeaſoned to the country.

Saw no manufactures on Windward Coaſt, but a few ſleeping mats. Some chiefs wear clothes from a country they cannot deſcribe. In Angola they make

make a ſmall graſs-cloth, the medium of trade, alſo a few caps and pipes curiouſly formed. A ſhip load would not fetch 5l. in England. Apprehends few of them could be procured. 1789.

Has often heard that a very few ſlaves from inland are priſoners of war. On the coaſt war always deſtroys the ſlave-trade. Never heard they were made or prolonged for making ſlaves. P. 85.

The firſt voyage one man left him in the Weſt Indies. The ſecond voyage alſo one, and four died.

In moſt ſhips you may ſtand upright under the gratings, in others all over the ſhip. In very ſmall ſhips often not above four feet. His ſhip 5 feet 10 inches, under the gratings 6 feet 10 inches, with platforms all round nearly in the middle between the decks, about 2 feet 11 inches from each, quite full of ſlaves. P. 86.

Slaves who ſpeak the ſame language are chained together. Recollects not an inſtance to the contrary. (ſee p. 106.)

Never ſaw it neceſſary to force the ſlaves to dance.

Thinks, but for the negroes, no ivory would come down, and that all we receive, and for which we give every encouragement, would not pay carriage, independent of the negroes. P. 87.

The natives, no doubt, wiſh for our goods. Near the beach, making no cloth, they are always clothed from Europe. Guns, powder, ſpirits, and tobacco, from habit, may be reckoned neceſſaries.

Ivory is their only article that could be uſeful to us. Some mats and cloths have been imported, but never fetched a price. Believes more of them might be produced, but not ivory. Apprehends rice could not be greatly cultivated; for the quick vegetation makes the labour of clearing land almoſt incredible. No doubt ſome of the ſoil might be applied to many articles of produce. Much is now uncultivated. P. 88.

Moſt generally the ſlaves in his ſhip had room to lie on their backs — ſometimes not. In moſt of laſt war, all the French, and many Engliſh, quitted the trade.

1789. trade. Thoſe that went found plenty of ſlaves, and cheap, (believes ſomething under 10l. each, p. 104) hence ſome crowded ſhips. In his laſt voyage, (in the Tartar, p. 103.) as ſurgeon, to Angola, in 1781 and early in 1782, the ſlaves wanted room. Of his 602 negroes, few, except upon deck, had the breadth of their backs, and he loſt only nine to Jamaica. Believes the tonnage from 130 to 150 tons, (old regiſter, p. 92.) but not poſitive.—In his next voyage, as maſter, they were pretty much in the ſame ſituation. The veſſel, 106 or 108 tons by regiſter, the ſlaves 450, the loſs 17 or 18.—45 whites, p. 89.

P. 89. In his laſt voyage, the ſhip might be about 120 tons, (old regiſter, p. 92.) Seamen ſlept upon ſpars between fore and main-maſt, as in all Guinea-men. From 50 to 60 ſlaves perhaps ſlept on deck, and 40 to 45 in the cabin, the reſt below; but does not preciſely remember. The cabin, (which would have held 25 to 30, and with platforms ſuppoſes 15 more, at leaſt, p. 91.) taken up by a ſick white trader, ſo that perhaps all the ſlaves had not the breadth of their backs. (70 boys and 20 men ſlept on deck. None at all in irons, p. 92.) Had 290 ſlaves, and loſt but one. In ſix other voyages, as far as he re-

P. 89. members, they might have lain on their backs, had

P. 90. they choſe.—In the ſhip of 108 tons, with 450 ſlaves, the breadth might be 22 or 23 feet.—Proviſions abaft in rooms for the purpoſe. Water in hold; and for 10 days on deck — carried ſeveral puncheons to the Weſt-Indies. Water took up little of the deck, and the negroes, not one of whom was in irons, had room enough for amuſement. The two boats ſlung

P. 91. on the quarters. Two main hatchways, about five feet ſquare, but not poſitive. A ſmall one forwards into the fuel-room. Two ſmall ones abaft, into the proviſion-room.

Guinea ſeamen ſubject to fevers, ſeldom to dyſenteries. Recollects no other general diſeaſe.

Negroes, in Africa, daily rub themſelves with palm-oil,

palm-oil, when to be got. This is alſo done in the Middle Paſſage, from cleanlineſs. 1789.

His greateſt mortality was from Angola, where the natives live on caſſada ſoured, which reſiſts the ſcurvy, of which 9 of 10 that he loſt, died.—Of his 600 ſlaves from Angola, he loſt but 9, from quick purchaſe. From 50 to 200 were then offered for ſale in a day. P. 93.

The trade is made on ſhore, and they are ſeldom heard of till they come into the factory. He made the trade on ſhore for two voyages. When they were ſo plenty, 1782, thinks they coſt about one-third of the price he afterwards paid. P. 94.

Guinea ſhips obliged to take more men than are neceſſary for navigation. Cannot ſee that their all remaining on board after arrival in the Weſt Indies would hurt owners. Never knew maſters of Guinea-men perſuade or oblige ſeamen to deſert in the Weſt Indies. In three voyages he left only three men there. In his paſſage to Africa, he never reſtricted the men in proviſions. On the coaſt was obliged to put them to allowance, to prevent embezzlement with the natives—generally 1 lb. beef and 1 lb. bread daily. Never knew them ſtinted in water. Flour, peaſe, and oatmeal generally half a pint daily, or more, with ſome butter. Different maſters, he believes, give different articles on different days; with him generally flour twice a week, peaſe as long as good, oatmeal, if ſound, for breakfaſt, and butter occaſionally. He had always water abroach for the ſeamen. The continuance of this allowance through the Middle Paſſage, will depend on the length of purchaſe. Thinks a ſhip, with two ſlaves to a ton, and the uſual crew, can take enough of proviſions to keep up this allowance for the voyage. P. 95. P. 96.

Thinks no ſeamen were ever better treated than his. Wiſhes not to go on hearſay. Never ſold ſpirits to his crew; but has ſeen it done in one or two ſhips. His had a dram every morning. They receive half their wages in the Weſt Indies. Knows P. 97.

1789. of no deductions but one ſhilling per month for the hoſpitals, and for a few ſlops they may have had, (ſee p. 100.) There is an invoice-price; but the ſale-price fixed by the captain, who has no intereſt in it, (ſee p. 100.) Half-wages paid in the Weſt Indies, to enable men to lay in things to preſent their
P. 98. friends with on their return. Has known officers in their agreement prohibited from trading in Africa; but no reſtriction on the diſpoſal of men's wages in the Weſt Indies. In ſeamens articles there is one, that if an officer or man enters himſelf for a ſituation he cannot fill, the maſter and two officers, named by him, at ſea, ſhall make a reaſonable deduction from his wages, which goes to the owner, one ſeaman be-
P. 99. ing ſtipulated to be preſent.—The captain has a diſcretionary power to remove any officer of whoſe conduct he is not ſatisfied. It is very generally expreſſed in the articles, that if ſeamen enter on board a king's ſhip they ſhall be paid all their wages in the currency of the country in which they are paid, but
P. 100. ſuch agreements in the ſlave-trade between maſter and ſeaman having been ſo often ſet aſide by lawyers and men of war's officers, a man would be a fool to proſecute him who had nothing to loſe. Means that the articles would not warrant withholding any of the ſeaman's pay, however he might have behaved. Conſiders thoſe articles of very little uſe indeed, though he never went without them. It is very
P. 101. generally agreed, that half of their wages ſhall be paid in currency. On that account we generally give (10s. per month, p. 105.) one-fourth more monthly-money than in any other trade. Thinks this rather given as an equivalent for half-wages currency, than for greater danger of the voyage, (p. 106.) Is very certain they do not conſider their 40s. per month as ſterling. It is ſeldom neceſſary to explain the difference between currency and ſterling, for any of the men can do it, as no Liverpool ſhip carries all new men. Believes Antigua currency 175, at Jamaica and Barbadoes always 140. Thus the

wages

wages paid in the Weſt Indies, which is never half, 1789.
may fluctuate from 40 to 75. To ſuch as enter in
king's ſhips, they are often obliged to pay the whole P. 102.
in ſterling, in defiance of the articles, and by the rule
of force, by which one delivers his purſe to a high-
wayman, and which has been exerted in unbending
the ſails and diſabling the veſſel from ſailing. This
was done in Kendal's ſhip, as he often told him, (p.
107.) Wages paid to repreſentatives of dead ſea- P. 103.
men, in currency and ſterling, as if they had lived.

Of his 450 ſlaves, ſix only were put in the ſecond P. 104.
claſs, upon ſale, and they were ſold in an hour — no
refuſe ſlaves.

The ſlaves appeared very indifferent as to their fate.

Never knew an inſtance of locked jaw on the coaſt.

Carried nearly two men ſlaves to one woman, both
at the ſame price. From the number of great men's P. 105.
wives, thinks it impoſſible to procure as many wo-
men as men.

Half a pint or more of water ſerved to each ſlave P. 106.
morning and evening; in very hot weather, the ſame
at noon. The ſlaves meſs in claſſes of 10, ſo that
none can be overlooked. The ſick conſtantly have
gruel or rice-water.

The captains, mates, and ſurgeon's profits, all but
a trifle, depend on preſerving the ſlaves health.

A ſeaman in the navy has leſs room above his
head than an African negro. He makes no account P. 107.
of the diſtance of the hammock from the floor, but
only of the ſpace above their heads.

In every cargo there is a few from near the beach
who generally ſpeak Engliſh. Moſt of them know
the language of their neighbours, and thoſe of others
ſtill farther back, and thus ſurgeons come at the
complaints of the negroes, by three or more inter-
preters.

The leg-iron is nearly a ſemicircle, each end hav-
ing an eye to receive a bolt which goes through the
eyes of the rings on the negroes' legs. The bolt is

1789. six or eight inches long. The wrist-irons the same, but more slender.

P. 108. All the negroes are upon deck from eight to five daily. It must be very bad weather when they are not brought on deck.

Has no doubt but the negroes lie in the night in tolerable comfort.

By every symptom, he always understood their complaints proceeded from the body. Never heard otherwise from the interpreters.

The captain and officers, as well as the meanest landman, receive half their wages in currency.

P. 109. The slaves, in his ship, had no additional chain or irons, by night or day, from their sailing from the coast, in his three voyages as master. The safety of the ship and crew depended on his and his people's good behaviour to the slaves.

Never knew any expedients practised to suppress the appearance of diseases previous to the sale of them.

He never was consulted by the owners as to the number, but often as to the accommodation, of the slaves to be taken on board; that is, whether they had room to lie, whether their food was well dressed, whether their little wants were well supplied, and whether their food was duly served, and in sufficient quantity.

Witness examined—Capt. WILLIAM MACINTOSH,

Commander of a Ship in the East-India Company's Service.

P. 112. Was, from early in 1760, to July 1762, as midshipman and captain's clerk of a king's vessel, at Senegal, to defend the river's mouth. She was sta-

P. 113. tioned there in the sickly season, and in the healthier she was generally 20 miles higher, off the fort. The crew was originally 57 men. Were often supplied, with a few men at a time, by men of war, and buried

ried many more than their original complement. 1789.
Thinks only two, beſides himſelf, came off the coaſt.
The veſſel was at laſt ſunk in the river, for want of men to bring her off, it not being thought an object to ſend men to do it.

Went again to Senegal in 1774, as maſter of a Weſt-Indiaman. Took no ſlaves on board, as he went merely for information.

Went again in 1775, and again in 1776, in the ſame capacity. Bought above 200 ſlaves each voyage. Did not ſtay on the coaſt above two or three P. 114.
weeks each time. Sold at Grenada. (the ſame veſſel each time, about 250 tons, p. 118.) In both voyages, both on the coaſt, and on the paſſage, his ſlaves and crew were in perfect health, till the ſale, which was ſoon; loſt none.

Went again 1778, with government ſtores to the Gold Coaſt. Staid on the coaſt five months. Bought 70 ſlaves at Senegal. Stopped at Gambia and S. Leone, and finiſhed his purchaſe on the Gold Coaſt, after landing his ſtores, cargo when compleated under 400 ſlaves. Crew 48, very healthy. Slaves P. 115.
generally ſo; five or ſix died. Sold at Grenada. (Ship the Symond, about 300 tons, p. 118.)

When in the king's ſloop, he often went into the country ſeveral days at a time, and once walked from Senegal to Goree, and back, (ferried acroſs to Goree, p. 118.) Always heard that on the coaſt of Senegal particularly, ſlaves were made for crimes; but moſt of them come down the river from inland. Never P. 116.
heard of villages in that country being pillaged to procure ſlaves. Certainly never heard of their being kidnapped by the natives. Has heard of their being kidnapped by Europeans; but no man ever told him he ſaw it. Never knew it happen.

In 1778, he was there a ſingle ſhip, when the war had ſtopped the ſlave trade, and he wiſhed to reduce the price. He reaſoned with them about the folly of keeping it up, when there was likely to be no buyer. Aſked a chief what he would do with his

ſlaves

1789. ſlaves then? obſerving that he muſt let them go again, (meaning priſoners of war.) The chief re-
P. 116. plied, "What them go again, to come to kill me again." In ſhort, he gave me to underſtand, that they would put them to death.

P. 117. Ships, from that coaſt, always ſail in the day, generally in the morning. Signals, perfectly underſtood by the natives, are made ſeveral days before ſailing.

In 1778, found at S. Leone, that the Minerva frigate, inſtead of going to the Gold Coaſt, had gone to the Weſt-Indies with above 80 ſick.

Has not underſtood there is any particular mortality, in ſlave ſhips or others on the coaſt, but only up rivers. He never was up any but Senegal.

P. 118. Senegal produces cotton and corn chiefly. Believes neither is exported.

Has had no connexion with the African trade theſe ten years, nor likely ever to have any.

Attributes this healthineſs to the ſhortneſs of the time on the coaſt, not to the ſmall number of ne-
P. 119. groes on board. He did not carry ſlaves as a common guineaman, had much room; but few in irons, and had plenty of proviſions and water. Thinks a gallon of water a day for a white man, and three quarts for a negro, a great allowance. Includes dreſſing of food. Never ſtinted them.

Made no agreement with ſeamen to pay them one-half wages in currency. Paid them the whole in London. Sold the ſeamen very little ſpirits or tobacco, ſpirits particularly. Recollects not the price; but always treated the men very liberally.

P. 120. Numbers of Guinea ſailors come home from the Weſt Indies, by the run, for which they get more than double the wages they would have received in the ſlave ſhips; this a ſtrong inducement to deſert the African ſhips.

Does not believe the Moors ever croſs the Niger to take the women out of the villages, while the men are at work.

Does

Does not think the natural affections of the negroes by any means ſo ſtrong, as thoſe of the Europeans. 1789. P. 121.

Does not think wars are ſtirred up to get brandy.

Slaves come from very great diſtances inland. Many of the 70 ſlaves he took from Senegal, and who came from Gallam, knew the language of thoſe he got on the Gold Coaſt. Hence he infers, there is an uninterrupted traffick through all the tract from the Gold Coaſt to the head of the Senegal.

His ſhip was not ſo conveniently fitted up as the Liverpool ſlave ſhips then were.

Thinks the ſlaves in the Weſt-Indies appear contented.

Free Africans ſeldom come on board ſlave ſhips to viſit ſlaves.

Thinks not quite half his 400 ſlaves were females. P. 122. Thinks the men coſt about £16 or £18 the women about £4 leſs. Did not wiſh for an equal number of females; becauſe he thought the men would turn to better account. Certainly an equal number of females might have been procured, when he was there.

Able ſeamen in the Weſt-India trade have from 23*s.* to 30*s.* per month, according to the time of the year in which the ſhips are fitted out. He generally brought home two-thirds of his men at leaſt. There are few voyages (to any place, p. 123.) in which ſeamen do not run away. Of the ſeamen taken out in the Weſt-Indiamen, ſome die, ſome go to America, and ſome to the French iſlands.

Had he taken 500, inſtead of 200, ſlaves, he believes they might have been equally healthy, had he ſtaid no longer on the coaſt. In general, ſtaying P. 123. long on the coaſt is more fatal to ſlaves and crew, than length of paſſage or crowding. Thinks the mortality proportioned to the time; for ſhips are twice or thrice as long on the coaſt, as on the paſſage. Thinks the open coaſt, three or four miles from ſhore, as healthy as the Middle Paſſage.

1789. More die after the ſhip is full ſlaved, and is gone off the coaſt, unleſs ſhe is long on the coaſt. When
P. 124. there is a greater proportion of mortality on the paſſage than the coaſt, it probably ariſes from crowding or ill fitted ſhip, unleſs diſeaſe gets among them, which all great numbers of people confined in a veſſel are liable to.

Believes, were the trade aboliſhed, it would be impoſſible to prevent our planters from ſupplying themſelves from the neutral or French iſlands. Thinks foreigners would immediately take up the ſlave trade.

The ſlaves are ſold in the Weſt-Indies, in lots of eight or ten. The whole cargo is divided into pretty equal lots. When he ſaid ſlaves coſt £16 or £18 on the coaſt, he meant prime ſlaves. The average price of men, women and children was then about £12 or
P. 125. £13. They were then particularly low. The average in the Weſt-Indies was then from £28 to £40.

Slave ſhips ſeldom bring home any Weſt-India produce, becauſe there are always plenty of ſhips in
P. 125. that trade. When there are not, they ſometimes ſhip produce on board ſlave veſſels, not elſe.

Thinks it would anſwer, as a mercantile concern, to ſend Weſt Indiamen to take in ſlaves on the coaſt, if ready for them; but it would require only a ſmall proportion of the Weſt-Indiamen, to carry the ſlaves from Africa; and it would be impoſſible to get ſlaves quick enough to diſpatch the ſhips. As far as S. Leone, the delay would not be very great; but if they went below that, it would be a loſing concern.

P. 126. Has heard that a houſe in this town, have agents on the coaſt, to diſpatch their veſſels quicker. Does not believe they have a ſhip ſtationed there for the purpoſe; but they order one to ſtay there for a time, and, when there is no longer occaſion for her, ſhe goes off with ſlaves.

Thinks his being able to get as many females as males,

males, was owing, his being the only ſhip then on the coaſt. 1789.

Never heard of ſending boats to ſeduce boys and other people, in order to make ſlaves of them.

Witneſs examined,—JEROME BARNARD WEUVES, Eſq.

Was fourteen years in Africa, chiefly as Governor of moſt of the Britiſh forts on the Gold Coaſt. Left it more than five years ago. Underſtood the language as well as moſt Europeans. P. 128.

That country is divided into petty ſtates. At Anamaboe there is a King. At other parts, Pynims and Elders, and Cabiſhers above them. P. 129.

From Succundee to Accra is the Fantee country.

Slaves are the greateſt part of their wealth, (ſee p. 147.) There are born ſlaves and purchaſed ſlaves. A born ſlave cannot be ſold but for a crime. They are tried by judges of their own clan, (i. e. ſlaves belonging to, and inherited by, one man, p. 140.) the puniſhment generally ſlavery. They are made ſlaves for theft, adultery, and witchcraft, and from gaming themſelves away. For theſe crimes freemen are alſo made ſlaves. P. 130.

Criminals ſold for the benefit of the injured. Freemen are tried by the Pynims, who wear a peculiar ſtraw hat, and who meet in the market-place, if there is no palaver-houſe (an open court of juſtice) and try them openly. Believes the Judges, either of a free or ſlave criminal, receive no reward. P. 131.

Gameſters become ſlaves, by throwing dice. There is no trial. They ſurrender themſelves. But gaming is not frequent on the Gold Coaſt.

Believes there is a trial for witchcraft; but never ſaw one (p. 140) He once bought a family of nine (neither of the ſuperior nor interior claſs (p. 148) one of whom only had been accuſed of witchcraft. The whole town came to ſee them fairly off the beach. Hence he infers they had a fair trial. Witch- P. 132.

1789. craft certainly involves the whole family (who are always extirpated without regard to perſons p. 149).

Fancies from 6000 to 8000, perhaps more ſlaves are yearly exported from the Gold Coaſt. Dares ſay above two-thirds by the Engliſh, the reſt by the Dutch and Danes.

There was no war while he was there. Is certain the natives of the Gold Coaſt ſold in that time were not priſoners of war but merely criminals.

Knows nothing of kidnapping, is ſure it would be impracticable. Canoe-men being natives it would be impoſſible to get off kidnapped ſlaves, without
P. 133. being known. No captain would riſk his trade by taking off any perſon unlawfully.

Ships before they can trade muſt pay cuſtoms. The King ſends town-elders on board to receive his cuſtoms and their own. Then three, five, or ſeven guns are fired, and the enſign hoiſted, to ſhow that the ſhip may trade. Scarce a day paſſes afterwards, but black brokers come and ſleep on board, at pleaſure, to ſee the trade properly carried on. Hence a perſon wrongfully ſeized would certainly be able to convey his complaints on ſhore. He hardly knows a trade more fairly carried on. The black broker or ſlave's owner has the choice of the goods. If they ſuit him he ſells the ſlave, if not he takes him away.

Never heard of breaking up villages to make ſlaves. Nothing of the kind exiſted in the fourteen years he
P. 134. was there. Has heard the natives ſay, there was a want of ſlaves during inland wars.

A great many, perhaps one-half or two-thirds of the ſlaves ſent from the Gold Coaſt, come from far inland (p. 154). The black brokers told him they go three, four, or five days journey to a market inland, to which ſlaves are brought, by more inland brokers, and ſo from many more inland brokers. He judges ſuch ſlaves to be of various tribes (from their different mode of marking their bodies, ſome filing their teeth, above all their different languages, p. 135). Has had 20, 30, or 40 who did not know each

each other's language. Thinks they are bred inland for ſlaves, becauſe ſome of them do not ſeem ſufficiently robuſt and ſpirited for wariors. Slaves are not bred for ſale, on the Gold Coaſt, but ſold for crimes. 1789. P. 135.

Human ſacrifices prevail on the Gold Coaſt, and he believes, have prevailed from time immemorial. Slaves, he believes, born ſo or purchaſed, are ſacrificed on the death of ſome great man. They think the manes of the dead will be uncomfortable unleſs perſons are ſent to wait upon him. Believes refuſed ſlaves are generally ſacrificed. But recollects no inſtance of it. P. 136.

The Gold Coaſt people wear no clothes, but a yard or two of cloth round the waiſt.

Thinks our abolition of the trade would not aboliſh it there. It would change its courſe, and the ſlaves be diſperſed from weſt to eaſt and bought by the Moors, Arabs, &c. But this only opinion. The other Europeans engaged in the trade would ſhare the number we did not take off. There would not be one ſlave the leſs on the Gold Coaſt, nor one more or leſs convicted of crimes on the Gold Coaſt (if the trade was aboliſhed by all the Europeans, p. 141). P. 136.

There are no manufactures on the Gold Coaſt. They get their clothing from the Europeans, by the ſlave-trade. That coaſt produces no articles for commerce but ſlaves. P. 137.

The Gold Coaſt extends from Cape La Hou to the River Volta, about 400 miles.

It produces a little Gold and Ivory. Little Gold got on that coaſt. Believes the little Gold and Ivory there is brought from inland. Ivory generally brought on ſlaves ſhoulders. It helps to pay charges of journey. That coaſt produces Grain and Cotton, but not for exportation. Supplies the ſhips food for the ſlaves. Cotton not cultivated. Has heard that the Dutch attempted to cultivate it; they took great pains, but it came to nothing (p. 151 at Axim). The natives would not take to the cultivation. Sup- P. 138.

1780. poſes the Dutch now hardly raiſe enough for wicks for the lamps of their ſettlements. (They had many of their own ſlaves on the cotton plantation. Very little ſlave trade near it, p. 147).

Never ſaw any dye-wood there. Knows of no other woods there, except common wood for gun-carriages and other carpenters uſe. From the little induſtry of the natives, even for their own maintenance, he apprehends they would not raiſe produce for exportation. Believes that, though land is very plenty, they would not permit the Europeans to ſettle there. They are obliged to pay rent for their ſettlements. Apprehends they would not ſell the land.

While he was in Africa, many Americans reſorted there, and he believes, they do now. (They traded briſkly till the war, p. 139).

Could the natives be brought to raiſe produce, it
P. 139. muſt be conveyed to the coaſt on their heads. The beſt landings there are indifferent (p. 151) but from May to Auguſt the ſurf makes it dangerous for the natives to go to the ſhips and return. Thinks it impoſſible to ſhip a hogſhead of ſugar, in thoſe months, when the ſhips lie about four miles off, in fine weather, about three miles.

Recollects not ſeeing a ſhip ſail in the night. They generally ſail, in the morning, with the land-wind. They always make ſignals, ſometimes a month before ſailing, which, he underſtood was done to make the natives ſettle their accounts. The ſignal is a gun, looſe fore-top-ſail and enſign hoiſted every
P. 140. morning.

For the ſmalleſt Theft the offender is ſold for the benefit of the injured. Does not recollect ſaying, but might have ſaid, before the Privy Council, that convicts for witchcraft were ſold for the benefit of a town at large, but chiefly for that of the principal people: if he did ſay ſo, he alluded to nine perſons, part of the family of a man condemned for witchcraft, and who were ſold at the requeſt of the whole town, who received their value, and he ſuppoſes, divided it.

Has

Has heard that ſome refuſed ſlaves have been ſold 1789.
to be ſacrificed. Believes they are religious ſacrifices.
Sometimes a great man's favourite girl or boy is ſa- P. 141.
crificed to attend him in the next world. They think
this a duty (p. 152). Doubts not, but if refuſed
ſlaves were not bought for this uſe, thoſe of the de-
ceaſed would ſupply their place.

Believes the Dutch or Danes often buy ſlaves of
inferior quality.

As ſlaves are not bred on the Gold Coaſt for ſale, P. 142.
he thinks the number from inland muſt far exceed
any thing of the kind on the Gold Coaſt. As there
were no wars in Africa while he was there, he pre-
ſumes the ſlaves brought down muſt have been bred
ſlaves or convicts. Moſt ſlaves of the coaſt are un-
doubtedly criminals.

The natives of the Gold Coaſt are vindictive and P. 143.
thieviſh in general.

Convicts are generally allowed to be redeemed,
if they have friends to do it.

Has ſeen, at a diſtance, intended victims dreſſed and P. 144.
dancing chearfully. Has no doubt but this aroſe from
thinking they were about to attend their deceaſed
maſter.

The Gold Coaſt not fertile, being very rocky.
Indian corn is the chief produce. Has ſeen the na-
tives raiſe a few ſugar-canes, by juſt throwing them
into the earth. Cotton alſo grows there. Has ſeen
ſomething called Indigo; but is no judge. Never
ſaw any dying-wood, but what came from other parts
of Africa. P. 145.

The Gold coaſt is very populous. There are a
good many conſiderable towns there, which are ſup-
plied with proviſions from a good way inland, by
people who bring corn on their heads, or from other
parts of the coaſt by water. Canoes are ſometimes
obliged to go thirty or forty miles along ſhore, to
fetch corn and yams; for though the land behind
the towns is cultivated he ſuppoſes to ſome diſtance,
it was not already productive to maintain the peo- P. 146.
ple.

1789. ple. When he has been obliged to buy proviſions from them, they brought corn to him, five, ſix, or ſeven miles, on their heads.

They have no idea of cultivation. After cutting the bruſh-wood, they let it dry, burn it, and throw the corn on the aſhes, without digging the ground. This is done by the family where there is no ſlaves. If a man has ſlaves, they help him. Famines are
P. 147. frequent. He has known corn very ſcarce indeed.

The natives do not work in the ſhips, but when ſickneſs renders it neceſſary. They are often employed in the boats, to ſave the ſeamen.

Where the Dutch attempted to raiſe cotton, there is very little trade in ſlaves, but chiefly in gold and ivory, which laſt is brought down on the ſlaves ſhoulders, or by the people brought down to carry back the goods bought with the gold.

The natural indolence of the natives is a total bar to all induſtry whatever.

Has heard the natives ſay the Gold Mines are a great way inland. Believes the teeth brought from a good way inland.

There are few iron tools but what are imported from Europe. A kind of noe is made from the bar-iron imported from Europe, and with which they cultivate yams. Does not know if they can make a hatchet there.

He is certain perſons convicted of witchcraft and their innocent relations would be ſacrificed, were the ſale of ſlaves prevented. An old woman accuſed of witchcraft, or the wife of an accuſed man, whom he refuſed, had her head cut off.

Does not know he ever purchaſed a priſoner of war.

Is at preſent concerned in the ſlave-trade.

P. 150. On the Gold Coaſt, the conſiderable men may have from twenty to three dozen of wives. Has not a doubt but theſe women may entrap the unwary. Dares ſay it may be as common there as in London; only in Africa is attended with the loſs of liberty.

Does

Does not believe it is uſual for chiefs to ſend out women for this purpoſe. 1789.

Has been told wars ſtop the ſlave-trade. There was no ſcarcity of ſlaves while he was on the coaſt.

Three, four, or five black brokers, according to the ſhip's ſize, attend the ſhip daily, while on the coaſt. They are paid for this attendance.

Europeans ſeldom aſk the black brokers how the ſlaves are procured. Being brought on board in canoes, they know they are fairly got, and take no farther trouble. P. 151.

The largeſt canoes he ever ſaw were two with 21 padlers each. No doubt a caſk of the ſize of a water-caſk might be carried on board full of ſugar as well as water.

Believes they were about a month in landing four or ſix 42 pounders, on a catamaran, at Anamaboe. P. 152.

The ſlaves belonging to the Company make hinges, &c. in the blackſmith's ſhop, in the Caſtle Yard, at C. Coaſt.

Believes human ſacrifices, on the Gold Coaſt, are only made on the death of great men. Their numbers depend on the rank of the deceaſed. P. 153.

When there were many ſhips on the Gold Coaſt they did not go off ſo quick with cargoes as when there were fewer. Hence he apprehends, if the demand was increaſed, there would be ſtill nearly the ſame number of ſlaves, unleſs they came from other parts.

Thinks, if there was no ſlave-market on the Gold Coaſt, petty thieves would be ſold to inland tribes, who do not now come there for ſlaves; becauſe they cannot afford the price, nor give the goods the natives want.

As Europeans could not cultivate the ſoil themſelves, thinks, if they attempt cultivation, they muſt employ ſlaves. P. 154.

Thinks ſlaves from inland, are both bred ſlaves, and convicts.

The convict for witchcraft whoſe relations he bought, had his head cut off. His father, mother,

two

1789. two wives, and three children, were ſold to him, on condition they ſhould never return to that country.

Never heard of the locked jaw on the coaſt.

Thinks as many females as males could not be had on the coaſt; becauſe conſiderable men keep as many wives as they pleaſe, who do the drudgery, fetch water and proviſions; but very ſeldom work in the fields.

Has known of an inſurrection where the ſlaves overcame the crew, and got back to ſhore, where he fancies they were all ſeized by the natives and again ſold.

P. 155. Thinks the intercourſe which the Africans on the coaſt have had with the Europeans, has had ſome little effect upon their external appearance, but with reſpect to government and morals, believes them ſtill in the ſame ſtate they were centuries ago.

Has reaſon to belive, from the tradition of the natives, that the mode of trial before deſcribed has exiſted from time immemorial.

There are no cattle of burthen on the Gold Coaſt, and very few bulls and cows; might ſay none, for it is a luxury to poſſeſs any.

The Europeans have gardens or plantations on the Gold Coaſt, to ſupply themſelves with vegetables, theſe they raiſe with great trouble, the exceſſive heat and dryneſs of the ſoil requiring much attention to the plants.

Has ſeen free Africans ſettled on the Gold Coaſt, who had formerly been tranſported to the W. Indies, had been carried from thence to London, from whence they were ſent back to Africa. Theſe for the firſt month ſeemed very proud to ſhew themſelves to their friends in their European dreſs, and got drunk with them as often as they could: they ſoon, however, got tired of this clothing which they found too warm, and betook themſelves to the two yards of cloth wrapt round the middle as worn by the reſt.

Was

Was never preſent at the trial of any perſon con- 1789.
victed of offences which ſubjected them to be ſold for ſlaves.

Has before ſaid, that the whole town participated in the profit ariſing from the ſale of convicts for witchcraft, but applied this only to the family ſold to him for that crime, not ſuppoſing it in general to be ſo. A number of people in that town having died from unknown cauſes, theſe deaths were charged upon the principal of this family.

This was the only inſtance of a condemnation for witchcraft, of which he had ocular proof.

Has generally obſerved that the large canoes are more eaſily overſet by the ſurf than the ſmall ones. As to the twenty-one-hand canoes, has before obſerved, that he never ſaw more than two, and thoſe he never ſaw overſet.

The ſurf frequently breaks in upon the large ca- P. 157.
noes ſo as to deſtroy or damage the goods on board.

Does not think it poſſible, by the craft uſed on that coaſt, to put on ſhore, or bring off, with ſafety, ſugar, ſalt, or any other commodity liable to melt, unleſs the caſks were made ſo tight, as to be impenetrable to water.

Never ſaw a canoe upon the Gold Coaſt capable of taking in a hogſhead of ſugar.

Corn, the chief article of proviſions carried from ſhore on board, is generally put into tight iron bound puncheons. Sugar in ſuch caſks might no doubt be brought on board equally ſafe.

No expenſe attends the tranſporting corn from the ſhore in this manner, the caſks ſo employed, being the water caſks belonging to the ſhip.

Applies this information reſpecting the danger from the ſurfs to the whole Gold Coaſt, upon which he knows no landing place, where the ſurf is not more or leſs hazardous.

Commanded the Fort at Dixcove upwards of two P. 158.
years.

1789. Saw once a boat belonging to a king's ſhip on ſhore there.

Does not think ſuch a boat could land on Cape Coaſt.

Sugar, generally loaf ſugar, is uſed on the Coaſt of Guinea, which is uſually landed in tight puncheons.

The coming off ſhore with a loading is more hazardous, than landing, inſomuch, as for one canoe overſet going aſhore, ten are overſet going off, taking the coaſt all along, good, bad, and indifferent.

King's ſhips, wood and water off Cape Coaſt, by canoes from the ſhore, which are frequently overſet.

P. 159. Can ſpecify no particular inſtance of a canoe overſet when ſo employed, becauſe the King's ſhips while he was in Africa, had generally contrived to come there in the fine ſeaſon when the ſea was very ſmooth, and there was very little ſurf, which is not the caſe at other times, from May to the latter end of Auguſt.

Does not believe there is any wood to be got on the Coaſt of Guinea, fit to be ſplit into ſtaves to make tight caſks of.

Has heard, that the Fort of Anamaboe (the beſt built fort in Africa without exception) was built by an engineer, ſent out under the direction of the Board of Ordnance.

Does not know what uſe the Arabs and Moors make of the ſlaves they purchaſe, but believes it is a traffick which they carry on for their own benefit.

Witneſs examined,—JOHN FOUNTAIN, Eſq.

P. 160. Has reſided at Cape Coaſt Caſtle, Tantum, and Accra, from the year 1778, to January 1789.

On his firſt arrival, had the command of the Company's troops. After that a factor for the Company: then

then ſecond of Accra: afterwards ſecond of Tantum: and laſtly Governor of Tantum. 1789.

Did not go into the country, further than in paſſing from one fort to another.

Did not ſpeak the language of the country, but underſtood the greater part of what was ſpoke by the Fantees.

Is of opinion that the natives become ſlaves from three cauſes, principally convicts, others for gaming, witchcraft, alſo debt.

Did not know any ſlaves who had been priſoners of war. Heard of few wars on the coaſt during his reſidence. Has ſeen a kind of war carried on between the natives of different towns, but not of any duration. Between 3 and 4000 men altogether might meet; no ſlaves made priſoners. P. 161.

Convicts are generally tried openly by the pynims or elders of each diſtrict.

Does not believe the judges derive any advantage from convictions, but that they are ſold for the benefit of the injured.

Does not include witchcraft among the crimes ſo tried; but remembers one ſimilar ſort of trial for witchcraft at Tantum lately, the accuſed being a perſon of ſome conſideration. P. 162.

Witchcraft generally involves the whole family.

The people are very ſuperſtitious—a belief in witchcraft is general—but thinks that by it is often meant poiſon.

Is not concerned at preſent with the African trade. P. 163.

While reſident there, acquired ſome knowledge of their government.

Thinks, if wars had been frequent, he muſt have heard of them. Very few of the ſlaves ſold off that coaſt, were priſoners of war. P. 164.

Never knew Europeans foment wars among the Africans. Has known them frequently aſſiſt in ſettling diſputes.

Never knew villages pillaged for making ſlaves; which he conſiders as impracticable by the whites. P. 165.

1789. Never heard kidnapping by Europeans, nor conceives that ſuch a practice ever exiſted; if it did, it could not be concealed; and any European experiencing a loſs of trade in conſequence, would complain to the Governor and Council on the coaſt, as well as to perſons in England.

When a ſlave is brought down for ſale, the owner applies to a broker, who conducts him to a European trader; ſhould they diſagree, they are at liberty to carry him away, and offer him to another.

There are always ſome free natives, uſually called gold takers, on board the ſhip, while the trade is carrying on.

Says, if a ſlave had been kidnapped, he would have had an opportunity of making his complaint; and being himſelf a member of the Council, had any ſuch practice prevailed, he muſt have heard of it.

P. 166. Never heard of kidnapping by the natives, though it poſſibly may have exiſted; apprehends it would be puniſhed; is ſure it would on the Gold Coaſt.

The natives poſſeſs a great number of ſlaves, which are conſidered by them as a common medium of traffick.

Slaves purchaſed by the natives, may be ſold again at their pleaſure; but ſuch as have fallen to them by inheritance, cannot be ſold, but by the general conſent of the other domeſtics, unleſs convicted of crimes.

The puniſhment of a free African, convicted of a crime, depends upon the offence committed.

P. 167. A man's ſlaves may be ſeized and ſold, to make good the fine he has incurred, or debts he may have contracted; but a long proceſs is neceſſary before he can be deprived of his hereditary ſlaves. A creditor often prefers ſeizing one of the family.

A man condemned to ſlavery, may in moſt caſes redeem himſelf by ſubſtituting another, but there are exceptions. If a man ſhould think himſelf bewitched, and can fix upon the guilty perſon, he will

will then ſell him under the reſtriction, that he ſhall not be redeemed. 1789.

He knew a late inſtance, in which (Awiſhee) a man of conſiderable note, and one of the beſt traders at Tantum, was ſaid to be bewitched, and a day or two after died. The perſon accuſed (himſelf a pynim) with his family, had a formal trial; the reſult was, the old pynim was ſold, and the family driven out of the town. Another inſtance occurred, whilſt he commanded at Tantum, the Caboſheer, a king, was taken ſick in the morning, reported to be bewitched, but died before ſix in the evening; the deceaſed not being a man of any connexions, no inquiry was made; the matter fell to the ground. P. 168.

Has been informed, that ſlaves accuſed of witchcraft, are tried by their own family, in conjunction with the hereditary ſlaves. Freemen by the pynims, as above deſcribed.

In caſes where ſlaves have been often convicted of ill behaviour, the purchaſer is often reſtrained from redeeming and keeping them in the country. P. 169.

A man of conſequence, convicted of adultery, not only forfeits his own liberty, but may have many of his ſlaves alſo ſeized. But ſhould the crime be committed by a ſlave of a great man, with one of his maſter's wives, he apprehends he would be put to death.

Human ſacrifices are practiſed in that country; had been informed at Appolonia, by the governor, who was a reſpectable man, that he had ſeen perſons ſeized by ſurprize in the market place, by a rope thrown over their heads, and thus dragged ſome diſtance, and executed in various ways. That at the death of old *Baw*, and *Ammoneer*, the two Caboſheers, he believed near 300 had been put to death.

Remembers at Cape Coaſt, upon the death of Quamina, the governor ſent to the family, threatening to fire upon the houſe, ſhould they attempt to ſacrifice any perſon; but notwithſtanding their promiſe to the contrary, a boy and girl were knocked P. 170.

on

1789. on the head; one of which was buried under, the other above his coffin.

The governor alluded to above, was Dickſon, now dead, but believes many in Europe and in Africa know the circumſtances to be as related.

Believes, that from the repreſentations of the whites, the practice does not now prevail ſo much upon the coaſt as formerly; but inland it is reported ſtill to exiſt in a great degree. Concludes, that ſlaves not ſaleable, are put to death, from an inſtance of an old woman at Cape Coaſt Caſtle, who, on being refuſed to be bought, to ſave her maintenance, was murdered.

P. 171. Is of opinion that the purchaſe of ſlaves by Europeans, preſerves their lives, and adds to their eaſe and comfort. Has for two or three months together, had 60 or 70 in the fort at once, who have appeared infinitely happier and healthier than when firſt purchaſed; nor did he ever loſe one by mortality.

The Dutch, Danes, Portugueſe, French, and Americans, traded on the coaſt while he was there.

The trade of the laſt has much increaſed of late. That from America is chiefly carried on from Boſton and Salem.

The French have lately taken poſſeſſion of a ſpot adjacent to Anamaboe; and though from the unhealthy ſituation they have loſt many people, they ſtill perſevere; ſend many more ſhips than they did.

P. 172. Trade for ſlaves is carried on to the eaſtward of the Gold Coaſt. From Whydah, all along to Old and New Calabar.

Does not know that the Engliſh ſhips have been in the practice of leaving the coaſt ſecretly in the night. The general cuſtom is, to looſe the fore topſail, hoiſt the enſign, and fire a gun, often for three, four, or five weeks, as a ſignal for ſailing, that ſuch of them as have accounts to ſettle with the captain, may come on board; the uſual time for getting under way, is with the land wind, from two in the morning.

The

The ſhips which lie off the coaſt are much more healthy than thoſe which go up the rivers, and lie nearer land; the latter being more expoſed to fogs. 1789.

There are no navigable rivers on the Gold Coaſt; two rivers, Elmina and Shemar, belonging to the Dutch, might admit boats under 20 tons, but even theſe would ſoon be aground.

There is neither water nor land carriage for bulky goods from within-land to the coaſt, inſomuch, that a tooth of about 170 pounds weight, was cut into three pieces to be made portable. P. 173.

There are no good landing places on the coaſt; the beſt ſeaſon for landing or ſhipping goods, is about Chriſtmas, January, or February; but has known it bad in thoſe months.

The coaſt he alludes to, as having no navigable rivers, nor any good landing places, extends from Cape la Hou to the Volta, about 420 miles; a heavy ſurf.

It is ſafer landing than ſhipping goods, though even in landing fiſhery canoes (which are much the ſafeſt) has ſeen ten in a day overſet. P. 174.

Believes he might inſtance certain ſhips deal for ivory and gold, but theſe alſo trade for ſlaves.

Gold is not an article of export, becauſe it bears a greater price there than here. Ivory is likewiſe an uncertain commodity. While ſecond at Tantum, he bought a great deal in a month, whereas, while laſt there, he had not been able to buy five teeth in two years. Thinks it could not be an object of commerce, independent of the ſlave trade; nay, that it could not be had at all in that event, becauſe the black trader who brings it from inland, loads the negroes with it, whom he is conducting to the coaſt for ſale; and ſo ſmall is their profit, it would not alone pay them for their trouble.

The Gold Coaſt produces no articles of commerce beſides gold and ivory; ſome few pieces of cloth, matts, &c. are occaſionally bought, as matters of curioſity, at ſo high a price as two or three ſlaves for a cloth P. 175.

1789. a cloth of eight yards by ſix yards; but ſuch are not the kinds of cloth the natives wear.

P. 176. It does not produce corn equal to the conſumption, nor more of cotton than what is uſed for lamp wicks. A ſort of attempt was made to extend its cultivation near Cape Coaſt, but the blacks deſtroyed by night the work of the day, alledging it was prejudicial to their proviſion ground.

P. 177. Nor does it produce rice in any quantity; knows of none to leeward of Apollonia.

It produces no dye woods, nor, ſo far as he knows, any article beſides what has been enumerated.

He reſided in that country during the late war, which in ſome degree interrupted the ſlave trade; fewer ſlaves were brought down than formerly; the demand not ſo great; the prices lower. Did not obſerve that more corn, rice, or cotton, was produced then, than before; but he was rather out of the way, being confined during the war chiefly to Tantum.

P. 178. Does not think that aboliſhing the ſlave-trade would materially alter the cultivation of the country, the natives being ſo indolent, as ſeldom to cultivate more than is neceſſary for their family, from year to year.

Believes the blacks would rather ſtarve than cultivate to any extent.

Is certain it would not extend the manufactures of cloths and matts, nor produce new ones.

Knows of no iron in the country; of that ſupplied them from Europe, they make only a kind of bill or hoe, for cultivating their land; but ſo courſe and ill tempered that they do not laſt. Supplied with many articles of iron from Europe.

P. 179. Thinks, if the ſlave-trade were aboliſhed in Great Britain there would not be a ſlave the leſs, as other nations, the French nation in particular would take off, what would otherwiſe have been brought by the Engliſh. The French have lately ſhewn themſelves deſirous of extending their trade.

In

In time of peace, the demand for ſlaves, has always been ſuperiour to the ſupply. 1789.

Thinks, that wars among the natives would become rather more frequent, ſhould the ſlave-trade be aboliſhed, becauſe convicts being left in the country, would create or foment diſſenſions among the natives. So ſure the abolition would be productive of a ſcene of carnage all along the coaſt, (ſee p. 166.) P. 179.

A colony could not be eſtabliſhed there but by conqueſt, the natives (except upon the ſea coaſt) being very hoſtile.

Never obſerved any inſtance of cruelty exerciſed by the Engliſh upon ſlaves bought by them; but much humanity, and particular attention when ſick.

Has never ſeen any particular cruelty to ſeamen in this trade; they may poſſibly experience inconveniences from the climate, to which the crews of veſſels trading there for other purpoſes would be equally ſubjected, and which would alſo affect colonies ſettled there. Remembers at the Daniſh fort at Accra, that the governor, vice-preſident, ſeven or eight officers, with 100 ſoldiers, died in a month, and this on the ſea coaſt. P. 180.

Has been three voyages from England to Africa, and two from Africa to England by way of the Weſt Indies, between 1778 and 1785. Obſerved no ill treatment of the crews. Never ſaw people happier.

His firſt voyage from Africa to the Weſt Indies was in the Iris, Maſon, tonnage about 220, about 300 ſlaves on board; exceeding well treated; plenty of proviſions and water. It is the intereſt of the owner. If not kept in heart and good ſpirits, it is odds but they ſicken and die. Paſſage to Jamaica ſix weeks and two days. Slaves not confined below above two days in all. Appeared quite ſatisfied and cheerful. Loſt but one. Left the ſhip at Barbadoes, but informed by the captain that he loſt none going from thence to Jamaica. P. 181.

1789. Before the late regulations, captains were benefited by the numbers they landed. Loſt ſix per cent. on ſuch as died.

Made his ſecond voyage from Africa 30th January laſt to Barbadoes, on board the Friendſhip, Lamb, a ſtore ſhip; carried a few ſlaves upon freight; though a large ſhip, worſe calculated for their conveyance
P. 182. than the common ſlave ſhips in many reſpects. Slaves exceedingly well treated during the voyage to Barbadoes. No deaths in the ſhip. Knows not what happened after leaving Barbadoes; were all in perfect health. Had no intereſt in the ſlaves on board; nor has he any connection whatſoever with the concern.

P. 183. Reſided in Hanover pariſh, Jamaica, upwards of four years, from beginning of 1770 to 1774. Knows of no practice of captains or ſurgeons to repel diſorders of the ſlaves. Never knew of any particular mortality take place in a cargo of ſlaves after their arrival, and before their landing. Has been on board two or three ſlave ſhips at the iſland whoſe cargoes were healthy. Believes few ſlaves of theſe ſhips were in a very diſeaſed ſtate when ſold; one, the Warwick Caſtle had nearly 500; has forgot the name of the other.

Is convinced that the abolition of the ſlave-trade would tend to the deſtruction of many lives on the coaſt of Africa, and to the ruin of the Britiſh colonies in the Weſt Indies.

P. 184. The king of Appolonia is deſpotick, and by his ſingle authority daily takes away the lives of many.

The length of that diſtrict is 25 or 30 miles along the coaſt, but cannot ſpeak as to the breadth.

It is probable that the ſlaves whom Quamina put to death, had previouſly the form of a trial.

Being chiefly confined at Tantum during the war,
P. 185. cannot ſay whether more or fewer ſlaves were taken off the coaſt than in peace; but he himſelf ſhipped more there ſince, becauſe, the other forts belonging to the Engliſh and Dutch being in a ſtate of mutual warfare,

warfare, the traders choſe to bring their ſlaves to Tantum, where they would not be moleſted. 1789.

The natives are induced to make human ſacrifices from various motives—That their friends may reſt quiet in their graves—That the deceaſed ſhould be properly attended: hence they generally ſacrifice his key-bearer or accraw, and his head wench; has beſides ſeen tombs, and burial places, paved with ſkulls of perſons thus ſacrificed.

Perſons of conſequence poſſeſs a conſiderable num- P. 186.
ber of ſlaves, which are retained in a ſtate of abſolute idleneſs, while their women provide them with water and other neceſſaries. And in ſuch habits of familiarity do maſters there live with their ſlaves, even the king of Cape Coaſt Caſtle himſelf, that unleſs for a very capital fault they would not be ſubjected to puniſhment.

Along the coaſt, to Accra, the natives owing to their indolence, have little or no ſupplies of corn; has offered a great price without ſucceſs. At Accra, a prodigious large diſtrict, they depend upon their neighbours for a ſupply, from Cape Coaſt, Anamaboe, Tantum, &c. During his reſidence at Accra, has ſeen great want among them.

In exchange for corn, when it is in plenty, they P. 187.
will take, from the whites, cloths, liquors, &c. but when it is ſcarce, hardly any thing elſe than gold duſt. The blacks, natives of Accra, give in exchange, cloth, gold, and a fiſh they call Aporge, which is a great article of trade as well as of ſubſiſtence among the Accras. What gold they thus barter for corn, they obtain in exchange for ſlaves and ivory; chiefly the latter, of which there is more ſold in that country than on any other part of the coaſt.

Suppoſes a great part of the proviſions are from inland.

Has not known any other trials for witchcraft than the two mentioned; but believes them ſtill very frequent.

1789. From what he has ſeen, does not apprehend there is any peculiar mode of trial for this crime, though
P. 188. ſuch trials are publick; yet the whites may not have frequent opportunities of ſeeing them, from its not being cuſtomary to introduce themſelves into ſuch aſſemblies; but, in the courſe of their walks, will often ſee the Pynims ſeated in the publick Palaver-place, and may upon inquiry learn the cauſe. Has heard it ſaid that the trials for witchcraft are conducted in a particular manner, but this muſt have been from miſinformation.

P. 189. The whole family of a perſon convicted of witchcraft is generally ſold; but in the caſe of Awiſhee, before noticed, the people of Tantum were contented with ſelling the old Pynim convicted of having bewitched him, and driving out the reſt of the family from among them.

The price obtained for perſons ſo ſold, is generally given to the injured family, ſubject to ſome deduction for expenſe of trial. Perſons are ſold upon conviction of other offences. Knows it to be ſo in regard to theft of gold, and ſome other articles. Thefts of liquor and ſuch like things may be compenſated for, by paying back ſomething more than the value.

Judges the natives of the country to be a quarrelſome, turbulent, ungrateful people.

P. 190. A captain never aſks a broker how a ſlave was obtained, becauſe the native is aware, that if he is found to have come by a ſlave illegally, he and his family are liable to be ſold for the offence.

Gold-takers, another name for trading men; however, they do take gold, and are employed in the purchaſe of every ſlave brought on board, ſpeaking the language in general ſpoken by the ſlaves. Would certainly learn from them if they had been captured or kidnapped.

Slaves are frequently redeemed from the ſhips, and others ſubſtituted in their room, by their families, if their offences have not been great. This

moſt common in the caſe of adultery, if the offence is not committed with the wife of a great man.

It is not cuſtomary to ſell domeſtick ſlaves from one family to another, unleſs for ſome heinous offence.

Such not conſidering themſelves altogether as ſlaves, but rather attendants on thoſe they ſerve; lead a lazy indolent life; employed in making Cuſtom, *i. e.* performing funeral ceremonies for the dead, or in diverſion or gaming. P. 191.

Natives of the Gold Coaſt, freemen or domeſticks, no doubt conſider it as a heavy puniſhment to be ſold to the Europeans, eſpecially ſuch as have been reſident near the forts, and in the habits of viſiting them; but for thoſe brought from the interiour parts of the country, is certain from their own aſſertion, as well as their general appearance, that they rejoice in their change of maſters. They are in general poor in fleſh; great eruptions over all their ſkin; very ſcrophulous, and frequently have bad ulcers; but when ſold again to the captains, they are often fat and ſleek. Sometimes they are brought to the forts in a healthier ſtate; has ſeen them low and dejected when brought to the fort, and become very cheerful in half an hour after they were brought; has been entreated by ſeveral to buy them.

Freemen ſold for crimes, no doubt lament their ſituation; conſider it as a heavy puniſhment, but, conſcious that they have deſerved it, ſeldom complained. P. 192.

That upon the Gold Coaſt the ſmalleſt thefts are puniſhed with ſlavery, he knows not to be the caſe.

That a man who ſhould ſteal an ear of corn would be ſold for a ſlave does happen, but knew an inſtance of a man guilty of that very act, who being taken, and a ſlave demanded of his maſter for him, the affair was compromiſed for an ounce of gold and ſome liquors.

Has no doubt that the man condemned to ſlavery for ſtealing an ear of corn would be ſatisfied with the

1789. the juſtice of his ſentence; becauſe he knows that ſuch is the law of the country, if he from whom it was ſtolen chooſes to be ſevere.

The manner in which ſlaves are confined to be taken on board ſhip, depends upon the nation they belong to. Duncoes are never put in irons, they ſupply a great number of ſlaves. The Fantees always. The Aſhantees and other nations, according
P. 193. to circumſtances. Slaves generally kept in irons while the ſhip is on the coaſt, though he has ſeen many out of irons. The women and boys never in irons.

The two ſhips he ſailed in from Africa for the W. Indies, and ſeveral others he had been aboard of, had no nettings. It is not uſual where the rails are high. Believes where it is uſed, it is to prevent the ſlaves from falling overboard, or to cut off all communication between them and the Anamaboe traders, who, for the purpoſe of reſelling them, might excite them to cut off the veſſel.

The inland ſlaves are confined in irons to keep them from any connection with the people about the forts who are great rogues, and might excite them to run away; in other reſpects they are never locked up, but allowed to amuſe themſelves about the fort, except at night. On board ſhip, they are kept in irons leſt they ſhould be adviſed by the canoe men, &c. to cut off the ſhip or jump overboard, which they would never of themſelves think of.

The natives from the interiour country are paid for the ſlaves and ivory they bring from thence, in cloth, liquor, guns, powder, gold, braſs-pans, and pewter; of pewter and braſs they are fond, and will take a great proportion. Has ſeldom known traders take more than one iron bar; and of late reject it altogether; for theſe two laſt years it has been in no great demand from Cape Coaſt to Tantum; therefore it has been cuſtomary to pay iron for proviſions when the blacks would take it. The commodities received

by

by the natives in exchange for ſlaves, they carry away made up in ſmall bundles, upon their heads. 1789.

Small defects do not render ſlaves unſaleable to Europeans. P. 196.

Is of opinion, that the ſlaves in the Weſt Indies would decreaſe annually without freſh ſupplies.

Slaves, in paſſing from the ſhore to the ſhip, have ſometimes an iron on their legs, or a log on their hands, from which they are releaſed when purchaſed, unleſs Fantees, of infamous characters.

Never heard of ſuch a thing in his life as an African trading ſhip carrying off free negroes againſt their inclination. Knew, however, that a man, of the name of Griffiths, did carry off two people intruſted to his care, from St. Andrews, or ſome part to windward, whom he never brought back. He reported, on his return, that either one or both died of the ſmall pox, with which the natives not being ſatisfied, put him to death. The act was ſeverely reprobated by the Governor and Council, and Reſidents, who wrote home about it. This the only inſtance he ever heard of. P. 197.

Has heard that gold is procured in the interior country in two ways, by digging and waſhing. Believes it is very ſcarce, and few allowed to dig for it. P. 198.

Has known two or three ſlaves refuſed in a year for defects. P. 199.

The people of Accra, when in want of corn, generally ſend their canoes for it all down the coaſt, though it is ſometimes brought to them by the people who have it to diſpoſe of. P. 200.

When conveyed by land from one country to another, it is carried upon the heads of negroes in ſmall baſkets. P. 201.

There is no doubt that war among the natives is injurious to trade of every kind; it ſtops the paths, and prevents every thing from coming down, ivory as well as ſlaves. The reſidents do therefore all in their power to make up any breach among them.

Traders

1789. Traders are afraid to paſs through villages when there is war.

Never knew a pound weight of either cotton or indigo, exported from the Gold Coaſt.

Europeans have no influence over the natives, to make them grow any particular articles; nor to change their cuſtoms.

Believes there are five males to one female exported from the Gold Coaſt.

Europeans, if they choſe it, could not obtain a greater proportion of females, becauſe the exerciſe of polygamy muſt render women ſcarcer.

P. 202. Does not think their attachment to their families ſo ſtrong as that of Europeans; nor that they have ſuch fine feelings; a black woman thinking little to pour a ſpoonful of brandy into a child's mouth, of two or three months old, at the breaſt. Seem to have little affection for their children—attributes it to polygamy.

Governor Miles expended conſiderable ſums to keep the natives in peace.

P. 203. Thinks, if there were no market on the coaſt, they would not bring the ſlaves from the interior country.

Witneſs Examined,—Capt. WILLIAM LITTLETON.

P. 204. Went to Gambia as mate 1762. Lived there 11 years, as a merchant.

Has been frequently up the Gambia. Went up about 300 leagues.

P. 205. Knew enough of the language to do his buſineſs.

Governments various on the different parts of the river—none hereditary. Kings for life, in rotation from one tribe to another, ſometimes from one town or diſtrict to another. Line of ſucceſſion ſometimes broken from caprice.

Slavery general. Some freemen keep many ſlaves.

Slaves

Slaves ſold to Europeans obtained various ways: 1789.
a great proportion from black Mahometan traders, ~~
who traverſe the interior parts to get ſlaves. Some P. 206.
priſoners of war, many convicts, and more from famines, cauſed by droughts and locuſts. The crimes numerous for which they are ſold. Believes this, from his own knowledge, and from good information.

Knew a famine in 1786, in the South-Weſt of the entrance of Gambia, from failure of rain, and locuſts. The natives ſubſiſted ſome months on roots, and whatever had nouriſhment, till nothing was left. They were then driven to the dreadful neceſſity of ſelling each other to procure ſubſiſtence. The Mandingoes bought them from the Phroops, between C. St. Mary's and C. Roxo, for corn and European goods, ſelling them to the white traders on the river, and he obtained a large proportion of them. Has been told by the Mahometans, who traverſe the inland parts, that famines often occur in Africa, which drive them ſometimes to ſubſiſt on each other, ſometimes by killing and eating them, often by ſelling them. Locuſts make dreadful havock, on the corn particularly: but it is generally partial, often confined to a ſpot of 40 or 50 miles.

Slaves made for adultery, theft, witchcraft, and P. 207.
other crimes, for which they are regularly, and, in general, impartially tried, by the leading men, and are ſeldom without their friends and advocates. An adulterer loſes life or liberty. If he eſcape, ſome of the family is ſeized and detained till he is taken. If he cannot redeem himſelf, he is ſold. Sometimes the whites are enjoined by the ſellers, who are generally the parties injured, not to let them be redeemed, on any terms. For witchcraft they are tried, and on conviction, ſold — after torture, ſometimes even to death. For conſiderable thefts, the puniſhment is loſs of liberty. Sometimes they are fined, and, if unable to pay, ſold.

1789. The injured party has the benefit of the conviction. Has learnt from the natives, that, on trials for witchcraft, the principal people aſſemble under the palaver-tree. Sometimes, before trial, the accuſed are dragged into the woods, and whipped till they acknowledge themſelves guilty of witchcraft, and, they are often condemned from confeſſion under
P. 208. torture, though innocent. Sometimes they endeavour to prove their innocence, by undergoing a kind of ordeal by fire or by water, which is an infuſion of a malignant root, drunk on thoſe occaſions, and which they ſeldom long ſurvive.

Very few priſoners of war, taken near the river, are ſold to the whites. Believes they ſeldom take many priſoners: if they do, they generally fall victims to the ferocity of the captors, and a few are ſacrificed to the manes of the victor's friends. Believes but few females are taken priſoners in war, (repeated p. 223.) Female priſoners are frequently exchanged. Females, convicted of witchcraft, ſeldom exchanged. Recollects not an inſtance of their being redeemed.

P. 209. Owners of domeſticks can, but very ſeldom do, diſpoſe of them, unleſs for ſome enormous crime, when they have generally the approbation of the other ſlaves to ſell them. Has been told they are generally tried by thoſe other ſlaves.

Never heard of wars made to get ſlaves. Wars always ariſe from their own diſſenſions. Wars near the ports always injure trade of every kind. Has been told by black merchants, they have gone 3 or 400 miles to avoid ſeats of war. In his time, there were wars between the nations near the Gambia.

Never heard of a white kidnapping a ſlave. It would have ruined that man's trade. Can only ſpeak of the River Gambia. Never heard *that* of the natives where he reſided. On making any ſuch attempt, they would be ſold themſelves.

Never heard of parties going out armed at night to take ſlaves, except againſt their enemies, with whom

whom they were at open war—nor of breaking up and ſurpriſing villages, to make ſlaves, but in caſes of open war. Such wars not very frequent near the Gambia; but inland wars are perpetually carrying on, in one country or another. 1789. P. 210.

Produce about the Gambia, country-corn, which is a ſpecies of millet, Indian corn, and rice, not in ſufficient quantities for export. Never heard of ſugar-cane growing there. Believes the climate unfit for it, from droughts from October to June. No articles of export, but wax, a little ivory, and a little gold, not worth mentioning. The ivory generally, he believes, about two tons, brought down on the heads of the ſlaves. Moſt of the wax comes from the S. ſide of the Gambia, chiefly about 30 or 40 leagues up; but in ſmaller quantities 2 or 300 leagues up, principally from the Phroops. Moſt of the wax is taken out of hollow trees: believes a little is taken in hives, which are cloſe to their houſes. Never ſaw above two or three hives, which were near the coaſt. Never heard of any inland. P. 211.

Apprehends it would not be worth the traders while to bring down ivory only from any great diſtance. Few elephants near the ports.

Apprehends the wax could not be much increaſed, for lately the whites have given a great price for it, and he has not learnt the quantity has increaſed from it.

They raiſe a little cotton and indigo, not ſufficient for their own uſe. They ſupply the deficiency with our manufactures. They are ſo indolent, that every attempt of the whites to encourage cotton and indigo, has proved abortive. What little indigo they raiſe, they cultivate. They do not reduce it to the ſtate of indigo which comes from other parts. They cut it, pound it in a wooden mortar, and hang it up in the form of ſugar-loves, in their houſes, and then infuſe it in water or lye made of aſhes, and dye their cloth with it. P. 212.

1789. Their cloths are about five or ſix inches broad, and they ſew them together. There are very few manufacturers. Theſe cloths could not be made an article of commerce among the whites.

Has been two voyages to Carolina, and three or four to the Weſt-Indies. In the firſt voyage to Charleſtown, from the commencement of the purchaſe in Africa, till the end of the ſale in Charleſtown, he loſt about 13 out of about 140. Looks upon that as a very great and uncommon mortality. The laſt voyage he was upon the coaſt from the beginning of May to the beginning of November, and loſt from the beginning of May to the cloſe of the ſale at Jamaica, 38 out of 242. His ſhip has ſince made a voyage to Jamaica, and loſt 3 out of 216. The ſame ſhip went all the voyages, regiſtered at
P. 213. 136 tons. Attributes the mortality of 38 to the ſlaves being of various nations, and ſome being very meagre when he received them, from the great ſcarcity in their country, particularly a number of the Phroops, who had a famine. When he loſt 13, his ſhip was ſingle decked, and he had very bad weather.

We carry hence ſplit and kiln-dried horſe-beans, and a great quantity of biſcuit and flour. In the country, we buy all the corn and rice we can.

The black traders feed the ſlaves intended for ſale on Guinea corn, chiefly, when they can get it, or any thing elſe they can procure. They never taſte rice, but by ſtealth.

The ſhips could ſeldom get enough of Guinea corn for the ſlaves in the voyage. The beans are huſked in England. They are boiled uſually with beef or ſalt-fiſh. After eating them once or twice, they become fond of them, ſo as ſometimes to aſk for them inſtead of their country food.

P. 214. Slaves on board, accommodated in the beſt manner they poſſibly can. When firſt brought on board by the black merchants, they have a chain round their necks, generally worn from the place they came from.

from. When the purchaſe of them is completed, 1789.
that chain is taken off, and ſhackles put on their legs,
which have a ring, through which a chain paſſes,
which ſecures them, while on deck. The men be-
tween decks lie cloſe together, juſt allowing room for
a perſon to ſtep between them. The men are gene-
rally before the main hatch-way, the boys in the
main hatch-way, the women, girls, and children,
are at liberty abaft, except at night, when they are
locked down below. They are on deck all day,
except in bad weather.

Believes there are air-ports and gratings in all Guinea-men, and ſometimes ſo much air, that they beg to have part of the tarpaulins laid over them.

From Gambia, the weather is generally fair and pleaſant after they get to windward of the Cape de Verd iſlands, when they fall in with the trade-winds. After this, the ſlaves are very ſeldom prevented by the weather from being on deck daily. They have P. 215.
ſome heavy but ſhort ſqualls of rain, when they ſpread the awnings over them. But it is a general rule to keep them on deck as much as they can, with prudence.

Cleanlineſs is one of their firſt objects. As ſoon as the ſlaves are on deck, the ſeamen, and generally ſome boys, ſcrape and ſwab the rooms, and generally air them with fire-pans. Twice or thrice a week they are waſhed with vinegar and fumigated.

Soon after day-light they have ſome biſcuit, and a glaſs of inferior ſpirits and water half and half. At their firſt meal, they have generally more than they can eat. About four or five in the evening they have a ſecond meal, of another kind. They ſeldom have the ſame food twice the ſame day. They have a regular allowance of water, as often as neceſſary. This depends on the heat of the weather. To ſupply the ſlaves with enough of food and water, is a chief part of the employment, both of ſailors and officers, at ſea, (ſee p. 216.) The officers are intereſted in the cargo's health. They have a privilege ſlave or P. 216.
two,

1789. two, according to the agreement. The chief mate and ſurgeon paid on the groſs average at ſale.

Slaves oftener complain of cold than heat in Middle Paſſage. When they think it too cold for them, they put them below; and even then they beg to have part of the tarpaulin laid over them. They often requeſt to go below, when it blows freſh, and they happen to be on the ſhady ſide of the deck.

The ſurgeon every morning viſits them, and often gives them medicines below, as well as on deck.

Sale adverti ſed four or five days after arrival in the Weſt-Indies. Never heard of means being uſed to repel diſorders of ſlaves, before ſale. In all his voyages, ſlaves always treated with humanity and tenderneſs.

P. 217. In his voyage to Carolina, loſt 2 out of 16, or 18, (thinks 18) ſeamen. In his laſt voyage, which was to Jamaica, from being detained on the coaſt, loſt 7 ſeamen in the Gambia, and 2 or three in the Middle Paſſage. The crew, with himſelf, originally 21. The ſurgeon died firſt. To his death he attributes the increaſe of his loſs both of ſeamen and ſlaves. The ſeamen's health, as much as poſſible, attended to. It is their intereſt to take care of the ſeamen, the ſucceſs of the voyage depending on it. (The loſs of ſeamen is from England to the Weſt-Indies, p. 220).

The time of day the ſhips leave the Gambia depends on the time of the tide. On entering the Gambia, they have 2 or 3 black linguiſts, a black meſſenger or two, and 6 or 8 people to row the boats, and preſerve the ſeamens health. They do not ſuffer a ſeaman to go into a boat, if they can avoid it. The blacks attend them out of the river, returning in the ſhip's long-boat, (which is generally left behind) or in a canoe. They uſually ſtop a tide at the laſt port of the river, to fill water. The time of ſailing is always known to the natives, ſometimes before the ſhip comes down.

The

The climate in general noxious to European con- 1789.
ſtitutions. He found no difference in it 2 or 300
leagues up the river, and at the entrance.

Rains from about the end of May till the end of P. 218.
October. Dry weather the reſt of the year. Believes the rains unhealthful—but he has generally been as healthy in rains as in dry weather. He avoided expoſing himſelf, which they cannot prevail on the ſeamen to do. Rains the moſt prejudicial to Europeans. They never carried the ſeamen up above 140 leagues, and there they were as healthy as at the river's mouth. The French and ſome Engliſh ſhips go no farther up than James Fort and Albadar. They have as much or more mortality than the ſhips 150 leagues up the river.

One voyage returned to Liverpool, once to Briſtol, the other times to London.

Believes there are people in London who make it their buſineſs to go on board ſhips to obtain litigious caſes. (Has ſeen this in London, p. 220). The P. 219.
ſeamen who have complaints, bring actions againſt the maſter or mate, as the caſe may be. He never had an action commenced againſt him.

In the ſingle deck ſhip there was a platform, in the other none. In the ſhip where he ſaid there was room to ſtep between the ſlaves, there was no platform.

Computes a gallon of water per day ſufficient for each man, white and black, including what proviſions are boiled in. They have a ſhort paſſage from Gambia, and allow them plenty of water, generally three or four times a day.

The ſlaves have water in the night, if they call for it. They have generally ſomething below to hold water, and it is poured through the gratings, through a funnel.

Poſſibly the extreme heat below, and their being P. 220.
naked, make them ſo ſuſceptible of cold, when they come on deck. They could not keep them clean

and

1789. and healthy, if they had clothes. The apartment below is cleared in order to clean it.

More timber than underwood on the coaſt. Mahogany has been brought thence for trial, but has not anſwered.

Corn, rice, and other proviſions might be cultivated where the ſoil is fit for corn. About 30 or 40 leagues up the Gambia, the ſoil is not adapted for corn, and produces but little. The natives cultivate as much land as they can, about the lower parts of the river, but do not raiſe enough of corn for their own uſe; hence they ſend canoes for it up
P. 221. the river. Thinks the land would not be productive without manure. Soil looſe and ſandy at the river's mouth; up the river more loamy. Believes it would receive the plough, if cleared from roots which the natives do not take up. Apprehends the ſoil and climate unadapted for European corn. The natives ſow their corn early in June, after the firſt rains. They cut their early corn, which is Indian, in September. Their greateſt crop is about the end of October. They generally cut and eat the Indian
P. 222. corn before it is ripe, in the early ſeaſon. They depend on the October corn. They have little or no manure, and ſcarce any horſes. They tie their cows on the corn ground, in the dry ſeaſon. The Phoolas have a good many cows.

Seldom above one-third females purchaſed. They buy all that are fit for the market who offer. The number of females varies every year. The trade to Gambia very much reduced. Has heard the ſlaves bought by the Europeans, ſome years ago, on that coaſt, eſtimated at 3000 annually: believes it does not now average 1000. Females are always ſcarce, when ſlaves in general are plenty. Perhaps 1-4th of the 3000 might have been females.

P. 223. A conſiderable part of the women are ſold as convicts for witchcraft—there are beſides ſome brought from the interior parts of the country—of theſe it is not always known for what crime they were ſold.

The

The gratings over the hatch-way are always kept open—when it rains, a tarpaulin is ſpread over the booms, 7 or eight feet from the deck, in form of an awning—has known the ſlaves deſire it to be laid cloſe over the gratings to keep them warm.—Never heard them complain of foul air,—if they think themſelves at any time too warm, a number of them are immediately brought upon deck. 1789. P. 224.

Never heard ſurgeons, officers, or ſailors, when viſiting the ſlaves apartments in the morning, complain particularly of the noiſomeneſs and foulneſs of the air,—they have obſerved at times it was very warm,—or that there was a particular ſmell—but nothing is ſuffered to remain long below to occaſion any offenſive ſmell. A thorough draught of air is kept up between decks, when the weather permits the air-ports to be kept open. A partial air is admitted through the gratings when the ports are ſhut.

Cannot ſay the exact height between decks of the ſlave ſhips ſpoke of above—ſuppoſe the loweſt about 4 feet. Had no platform in his ſhip. Does not recollect having been on board more than two ſhips who had. The height between decks in them, he thinks, was 7 feet. P. 225.

Slaves, on board the ſhips he has been in, might lie on their backs, though perhaps it might be difficult all at the ſame time.

They are ſubject to be ſea-ſick for two or three days. Seldom excoriated by their chains, care being taken upon the firſt appearance of injury to wrap ſomething round the limb to guard it. P. 226.

It was his endeavour to render the ſituation of the ſlaves on board as comfortable as poſſible, by giving them plenty of food and drink, and the beſt lodging he could.

The perſons charged with exerciſing witchcraft are ſuppoſed to diſtribute drugs; in particular ſuch as occaſion abortion.

Is of opinion the abolition of the ſlave-trade, by this country, would encourage the evils which it is meant P. 227.

1789. meant to relieve—ſuch as human ſacrifices, and murder of captives and convicts, it being a maxim among the blacks never to give a man an opportunity of revenging an injury.

Does not think the natives could be induced, from any conſideration, to raiſe produce worth the attention of this country. Nor that Europeans could ſtand the climate, in clearing woods, and cultivating the lands.

P. 228. Cotton, of very excellent quality, is produced there, with very little labour.

Has generally found, that ſeamen on board ſlave-ſhips, were as healthy as thoſe belonging to other ſhips, trading on the ſame coaſt. Did not loſe a ſeaman in his laſt voyage. Returned in November.

Attributes the unhealthineſs of ſeamen in a great meaſure to their expoſing themſelves to the night
P. 229. dews, more prejudicial than rains, and not to their food. They will not ſleep under cover, but bring their beds upon deck, that they may be cool.

In the voyage, when he loſt 7 out of 21 ſeamen, the reſt were in a relaxed ſtate. Did not take on board any freſh men, to re-place the 7. Had on board 236 or 238 ſlaves at leaving the coaſt, which
P. 230. were permitted to come upon deck as often, and as many at a time, without additional irons, as if the crew had been full and healthy: ſome of the irons were even taken off after getting to ſea.

Cannot ſay he has been acquainted with any inſtances of notorious cruelty in the captains of ſlave-ſhips. Some are more ſevere than others. Can only ſpeak to the ſhips that have frequented the Gambia.

Witneſs examined, — THOMAS KING, Eſq. a Merchant of London.

P. 232. Went firſt to Africa in 1766, ſecond mate of the Royal Charlotte, of about 300 tons; not a regular

ſlave

ſlave ſhip; carried out the African company's ſtores to Cape Coaſt; took in 120 ſlaves on the Gold Coaſt. Generally healthy on the voyage. Loſt only two or three, till landed in Jamaica. About fourteen days intervened between arrival and landing of the laſt man. In this interval no means uſed to repel diſorders of the ſlaves. The ſailors, ſeventeen in all, healthy the whole voyage. Loſt not one from leaving London, to return there. 1789. P. 232.

Sailed next to Africa in 1767-8, in ſame capacity, ſame ſhip. Took in 455 ſlaves from Gold Coaſt, for Grenada. In general very healthy. Thinks he loſt ten in the voyage. Believes he loſt none on board at Grenada, which was for about a week. P. 234.

Thinks the crew were eighteen, very healthy, loſt none in the voyage, nor at Grenada, where he left the ſhip.

Sailed a third time to Africa from Grenada, as Captain of the Molly, about 110 tons. Touched at America, there took in the cargo with which ſlaves were to be purchaſed. Proceeded to the Gold Coaſt, where he thinks took on board 105 ſlaves. Had twelve or thirteen ſailors. Was about twelve months on the Gold Coaſt, and near it. The voyage was unfortunate to ſailors and ſlaves. Of the firſt, ſix or ſeven died. Of the latter, about one half. He attributes this to the following circumſtances. Though near twelve months on the coaſt, he loſt few ſlaves or ſeamen; but his ſhip ſailed very badly, and loſt ſome of her maſts, by which he was driven into the Bite of Bonny, a very unhealthy part of the coaſt, and was ſeven months from the Gold Coaſt to Grenada. During which he was ſeveral times obliged to put into different places for proviſions, and could get but ſcanty ſupplies. Hence both whites and negroes were two or three times, during the paſſage, reduced to a very ſhort allowance. P. 235.

Sailed, latter end of 1770, a fourth time to Africa, in the brig Ferret, about 70 tons, twelve or thirteen

1789. men, from London to the River Cameroon. Bought 105 ſlaves, which he carried to Grenada. About eight months on the coaſt, and about two months from thence to the Weſt-Indies. Crew and ſlaves in general pretty healthy; loſt two or three of the firſt, four or five of the latter.

Sailed a fifth time to the coaſt of Africa, in De-
P. 235. cember 1771, from London, in the Surrey, of 180 tons, 25 ſailors, to the River Cameroon. Staid there ſix months. Took in 255 ſlaves. Had a paſſage of eight weeks to Grenada. Crew and ſlaves in general healthy. Loſt ten ſlaves.

P. 236. In the River Cameroon (more unhealthy to Europeans than the open coaſt) himſelf, officers, and moſt of his crew were ſick. Loſt there the ſurgeon and three ſeamen.

His ſixth voyage to Africa, early in 1773, in the Three Friends, 70 tons, himſelf and crew twelve. Remained on the Gold Coaſt three months. Took in 144 ſlaves for St. Vincent's. Loſt two ſailors on the coaſt, and eight ſlaves in all.

Sailed a ſeventh time to Africa, in 1775, from London, in the Venus of 150 tons. Crew in all 21 or 22. Staid on the Gold Coaſt four months. Took
P. 237. in 321 ſlaves for Jamaica. Loſt in all one or two ſeamen and ten ſlaves.

His eighth voyage was in 1776, from London, in the Harriet, of 135 tons, eighteen men. Staid on the Gold Coaſt between three and four months. Took in 277 ſlaves, for Jamaica. Loſt ſeven ſlaves in all; none of the crew.

Has all along, in ſpeaking to the mortality of ſlaves, reckoned from the firſt man brought on board, to the laſt man landed in the Weſt-Indies.

Sailed for the ninth and laſt time, in November 1780, from London, in the Cambden, of 335 tons, whole crew 65. Bought on the Gold Coaſt 580 ſlaves. Stay ſix months. Sailed for Jamaica. Loſt four ſailors, two of them by accident. Loſt 50 or 51 ſlaves

ſlaves in all, by a diarrhea on the coaſt. Some it was apprehended had brought the diſeaſe on board. 1789.

Has ever ſince been ſettled in London as a merchant. P. 238.

All the veſſels in which he ſailed for Africa (except the two firſt) were regular ſlave ſhips.

In all the ſhips he commanded, or was concerned in, is ſure they never buried one per cent. of the negroes after their arrival in the Weſt Indies, and before ſale.

Never knew any means uſed by ſurgeons or others, to repel the diſorders of ſlaves before their landing.

Had frequent opportunities of being on ſhore in Africa, and by the natives accounts, ſlaves become ſo chiefly for crimes, witchcraft included; and ſome few priſoners of war.

Never heard of wars for the purpoſe of getting ſlaves, nor, that Europeans ever ſtirred up ſuch. Nor ever heard of towns or villages pillaged or deſtroyed for this purpoſe. P. 239.

Never heard of the natives being ſtolen, except from ſlaves from the inland country. Theſe have mentioned a few being ſtolen or taken away; but thinks they preferred telling this ſtory, to giving the real fact. Water-ſide people, had any of them been kidnapped, or improperly detained, would have had opportunities of making complaints, and getting redreſs.

Free natives are daily on board the ſhips, with whom the ſlaves have conſtant opportunities of converſing.

It is uſual for all ſhips, where he has been, to give a week, more commonly a month's notice, of ſailing. Ships generally ſail with the land breeze, which is from early in the morning, until nine or ten o'clock.

In the ſhips in which he ſailed, or has been generally concerned, one half the crew conſiſted of captain, officers and ſeamen; the other half of landmen, and of men, who may have been one or two voyages, and boys. P. 240.

As

1789. As far as he knows, thinks this the uſual proportion in ſlave ſhips.

A certain proportion of ſlaves proviſions is always carried from England; becauſe the Gold Coaſt does not furniſh enough; ſometimes, though not frequently, none at all is to be got there. Beſides, the ſlaves prefer a change of food; which conſiſts chiefly of ſplit beans, a little rice; has known wheat, but that is now laid aſide. Beans are very wholeſome, and preferred by the Gold Coaſt negroes to Indian corn, their native food. When he went firſt to Africa, inſtead of beans, at leaſt two-thirds white peaſe were carried; the ſurgeons afterwards adviſed an equal quantity of both. But neither did this agree with the negroes ſo well as beans given alone, therefore mer-
P. 241. chants now ſend out only tick beans (a ſpecies of Windſor beans as he is told) kiln dried, ſplit and ſhelled. Never carried or ſent, nor ever ſaw or heard of, horſe beans being ſent to Africa for the negroes. The beans ſent are frequently eaten by the whites.

In a well regulated ſhip, every poſſible attention is paid to the ſlaves on the paſſage, as alſo to the dreſſing and quantity of their diet, which he thinks was more comfortable than in their own country; better ſeaſoned, better dreſſed, and ſerved in cleaner veſſels. Great attention is paid to the health of the ſlaves on board. Early every morning, inquiry is made, if they have any complaints; and again after breakfaſt, it is the duty of the ſurgeon to examine carefully every ſlave on board. It certainly is the intereſt, and duty of the captain and ſurgeon, to take care of the negroes.

P. 242. Has not obſerved in the parts of Africa where he has generally been, any produce, except proviſions, and of theſe, not ſo great a ſurplus as the ſhips wiſh to have. Could ſhips depend on getting a ſupply there, they would not carry ſo much out with them.

There are no other articles of produce worth notice. There is ſome gold duſt, ivory, bees-wax, gum-copal,

gum-copal, bar-wood and cam-wood, but not in quantities, to become a conſiderable object of trade. 1789.

The genius of the people on the Gold Coaſt, he thinks, equal to extending commerce in any thing practicable, but from their indolence, thinks that commerce could not be extended among them.

Does not think a colony could be ſettled on the Gold Coaſt, but by force.

Beſides, the coaſt is unfavourable to an extenſive commerce, in reſpect of rivers, harbours, or landing places. The rivers have all bars. There are no harbours, bays, or creeks, where even one of our boats can land with ſafety on, except two, on that part of the Gold Coaſt frequented by Engliſh ſhips; and even thoſe two, are very unſafe, except in fine weather. Believes, that under the Dutch ſettlements, there are one or two places of the ſame deſcription, where a boat may land. P. 243.

Whilſt he frequented the coaſt, the Dutch, French Portugueſe, and by chance a Daniſh ſhip traded there.

The French have exceedingly increaſed their trade to Africa the laſt four years; this he has learnt from Frenchmen, both here and in France, and from his correſpondence with French houſes.

Before the late war, the Americans carried on a conſiderable trade, chiefly from Rhode-Iſland and New-Providence, to Africa, which was totally given up in the war, but is revived ſince the peace, and he believes carried to rather a greater extent than before.

Thinks, if the ſlave trade ſhould be aboliſhed in Great-Britain, the ſame number of ſlaves would be bought among the other nations. P. 244.

Is of opinion, that the treatment of ſlaves on board Engliſh ſhips, is preferable to that of any other nation.

Has touched at different parts of the Windward Coaſt, in his way to the Gold Coaſt, and ſo far as he obſerved,

1789. obſerved, ſlaves are procured in the ſame way there, and on the River Cameroon, as on the Gold Coaſt.

The ſoil on the river can produce whatever the climate will admit; but they only cultivate proviſions, and ſome little fruits and vegetables; no grain.

P. 245. It never was his practice, nor that of any ſhips in which he was, or is concerned, or has known, to compel the ſailors to take their diſcharge in the Weſt-Indies. It is not their intereſt ſo to do. Though they have, when they arrive in the Weſt Indies, ſome few men more than abſolutely neceſſary to navigate the ſhips home; yet the additional charge of getting three men in the Weſt Indies, in lieu of nine men diſcharged, would be nearly, if not quite, equal to the expence of bringing the nine men home, (vide the Minutes for his explanation.)

P. 246. It is cuſtomary for ſailors to deſert from African ſhips in the Weſt Indies. Attributes it to their receiving half their pay at the ſelling; their getting on ſhore, and intoxicated; and often getting higher wages for the run home, in other ſhips.

Never knew a captain of an African ſhip, uſe his men ill to make them run away in the Weſt Indies; it was ever his wiſh to preſerve them as much as he could, knowing the additional expence, and ſometimes difficulty, of getting others at any rate. Believes it is not very common for ſailors to go ſeveral voyages in the ſame ſhip, with the ſame captain, in the ſlave trade: at the ſame time his houſe have had the ſame ſeamen go many voyages in their employ.

His opinion of the probable conſequences of aboliſhing the ſlave trade from this country only, is, that as many negroes would be exported from Africa as now. Reſpecting the Weſt India iſlands, concludes, they would be very materially affected by loſing that moſt valuable branch of the trade, the exportation to foreigners, of a large proportion of the negroes imported in Britiſh ſhips, which are paid for generally in ſpecie, or in Weſt India produce.

Formerly,

Formerly, on the Gold Coaſt, more than one-third females was procurable. For the laſt two years, believes every poſſible encouragement has been given for females, but now they cannot obtain more than one-fourth generally; and by the laſt accounts, the price given for prime females, exceeded by £5 a head, what is generally given for men. Cannot account ſufficiently for this ſcarcity. Polygamy being tolerated in Africa, believes many prime young females are kept as wives in the countries they paſs through. 1789. P. 247.

On the Gold Coaſt, more has been given by 40s. per head for males than females; but to get more of the latter, they have offered an advanced price.

One houſe in London has ſent goods to the amount of £.100,000 in a year to Africa, including the value of their ſhips. Has been told of houſes in Liverpool that ſend more.

Believes, that the voyages in which he commanded ſlave ſhips, in 1770, 1771, 1773, 1775, 1776, 1780, were all attended with a certain profit.

Has heard of the locked jaw in Africa, but it is not common there. Does not recollect ever having had a ſlave ill of that diſorder on board. P. 28.

The natives on the Gold Coaſt raiſe a few yams at one or two places; very few ſweet potatoes; no rice; no wheat.

The difference in price between peaſe and ſuch beans as are carried out to feed the ſlaves, is very little. Thinks that the beans may in common be rather cheaper. Should think the peaſe as heavy as the beans per buſhel.

The cuſtomary allowance in quantity to the ſlaves, was exactly the ſame of either.

The land towards the ſea on the Gold Coaſt is generally low and rocky, but riſes as you go inland. Some of it in the back country, within view, is mountainous. P. 249.

1789. Impoſſible to ſpeak generally to the depth of water within 100 yards of the beach. At the landing places, 100 yards from the ſhore it may be ſix to eight feet; in other places it is not deeper near a mile off. At a medium the ſea breaks 300 yards from the ſhore: there are ſeaſons, and particular days in thoſe ſeaſons, when the ſea is ſmoother, and may not break 20 yards from the ſhore. At other ſeaſons the ſea breaks in ſix fathom water; and in general the ſea is worſe near the full and change of the moon.

No tide can be perceived in ſhips at anchor. On ſhore thinks there may be a riſe of at moſt three feet.

Such Guinea ſeamen as have wives and families, or dependents, the owners pay from 10s. to 15s. per
P. 250. month out of their wages to ſuch relations; and continue their allowance to their return, death or deſertion of the ſeaman.

Thinks a ſeaman cauſeleſsly diſcharged, againſt his conſent in the Weſt Indies, may, on his return, proſecute the maſter for full wages till the ſhip arrives in England; and knows that ſuch proſecutions have taken place here; when the ſeaman recover his wages, but does not recollect that he received any thing for his paſſage home, though that might have happened and eſcaped his knowledge.

Has given the tonnage of the ſix laſt veſſels in which he traded for ſlaves, according to the old regiſter, as near as he could recollect: that of the laſt ſhip was what ſhe afterwards meaſured.

He laid upon the table a ſample of the ſaid beans, with a note from the perſon who furniſhed the ſample, and who had always ſupplied him when in the African trade. The note was read, and is as follows:—

P. 251. "Mr. Stray ſays, theſe are the only ſort of beans
"that are ſent to Africa, they are called tick-beans;
"they are alſo ſent to the Weſt Indies for proviſion

"for

" for the pegroes. If eat when green, they are equal 1789.
" to the garden beans produced at this time of the
" year. Horſe-beans are a different ſort, and not
" uſed for ſlaves proviſions. Mr. Stray alſo ſays,
" he does not know that the tick-beans are uſed
" for any other purpoſe than for exportation to
" Africa and the Weſt Indies."

Knows that the trade of the French to Africa is conſiderably increaſed in theſe two years, and is now increaſing. They grant conſiderable bounties, to the ſhips fitted from France for that trade; and alſo ſo much a head upon negroes imported into their iſlands. Believes there are only two or three places in St. Domingo where no bounty is given on negroes; in all their other iſlands a bounty is allowed.

The idea of aboliſhing the ſlave-trade in this country has undoubtedly given additional vigour to the French African trade; and many adventurers in the the French trade, anxiouſly watch the buſineſs now before this Houſe.

Does not know the prices of horſe and tick-beans; nor, that when horſe-beans ſell from 21s. to 22s. 6d. tick-beans are from 19s. to 21s. Knows that tick-beans, at leaſt the beans laid on the table, have never P. 252.
been bought here for leſs than 34s. per quarter in the laſt five years; have been at 48s. and bought by his houſe at 52s. in that time; he would be underſtood to ſpeak to the price of theſe beans in the ſtate in which they are put on board. What price they may be ſold at before they are kiln-dried, ſplit, and ſhelled, he does not know.

Imagines, that a Weſt India ſhip of 200 tons uſually employs 14 ſeamen. The number for a ſlave ſhip of the ſame burthen muſt depend greatly on the part of Africa ſhe is bound to. To the river Cameroon he thinks 30.

Does not think ſuch a veſſel on her return from the Weſt Indies to London could be coveniently navigated by 14, out of ſuch a crew as an African ſhip carries.

1789. Such a veſſel when light, might be ſafely navigated by eight or ten able ſeamen, and four or five landmen, or leſs.

P. 253. Their houſe had a ſhip which went from England to lie ſome time at Anamaboe, to buy ſlaves; ſome part of which were diſpoſed of in two or three other veſſels. She lay there 15 or 16 months; had, when ſhe went out, a crew of 35 or 36, of which has been told by her commander ſhe loſt four only.

Has known crews of ſlave ſhips cut off while the veſſels lay in rivers by the natives, and at ſea by the ſlaves.

Believes in well regulated ſhips the ſlaves are gene-
P. 254. rally ſatisfied; but there are nations whoſe prieſts induce them to make thoſe attempts, in expecting to get the ſhip to ſome ſhore, where they may form a community of their own. Other nations have an idea, that the whites buy them to kill and eat them. They are ſometimes a good while on board before they are quite reconciled. Slaves ſold for crimes from near the ſhore, are for a time diſcontented at ſeparation from their friends and families; particularly while they lie near the ſhore, and ſometimes attempt to cut off the ſhip's crew, and by chance ſucceed.

Is himſelf now concerned in the ſlave-trade.

Very few ſhips have been run away with by the
P. 255. ſlaves, and thoſe only from Gambia, and its vicinity, they having deſtroyed the whites except one or two, kept to navigate the ſhip to the neareſt land. Thinks, he recollects one inſtance of their having got back to their coaſt; and another, of a ſhip being met with at ſea, and taken poſſeſſion of.

A part of the men ſlaves only are fettered on board. Out of 500 from the Gold Coaſt 120 or 125 may be women and girls; of the males, at leaſt 100 or 125 are from the age of 15 downwards; and are never put in irons; and of the reſt, a certain proportion, from the moſt interiour parts of Africa, who are quiet, are never put in irons; ſo that of 500, he eſtimates,

eſtimates, not above 200, 230, or 250, would be in 1789.
fetters at once; and in the latter part of the paſſage, not near ſo many. They are generally chained two and two together, the right leg of the one to the left leg of the other. Some of the moſt reſolute are chained by the hand alſo; the bolt of the fetters is about 14 or 15 inches long; the ſpace between the two ſhackles about ſix; but they vary in proportion to the ſtrength and ſize of the men. The weight of the leg fetters ſhackle and bolt may be from 2 to 3 lb. Are fettered thus night and day.

The largeſt proportion he ever had on board was P. 256.
rather better than two ſlaves to a ton, who certainly had room to lie on their backs.

On Gold Coaſt he, and he believes others, laid in from 45 to 50 gallons for every white and black on board. From the river Cameroon rather more, the paſſage from thence rather the longeſt and more uncertain. The uſual paſſage is from ſeven to nine weeks, and the calculation is made for 90 days, at half a gallon per day. Proviſions alſo for 90 days; and for ſome time after the ſhip ſails, care is taken not far to exceed that allowance; but, when they get into the S. E. trade-winds, when they can calculate pretty nearly the reſt of the paſſage, they have generally as much water and proviſions as they chooſe.

In ſome ſlave ſhips from London, a ſtill-head and worm is fixed to the ſlave's boiler to procure more water. When he mentions the eſtimate of half a gallon of water, that uſed for boiling, &c. was included.

Witneſs examined—ALEXANDER ANDERSON, Eſq.

Is a merchant in partnerſhip with his brother, four P. 258.
or five years proprietors of Bance Iſland, in S. Leone. They have in that time, ſhipped ſeveral cargoes of

ſlaves

1789. ſlaves for the Weſt Indies and S. Carolina. The average mortality from ſailing to arrival at the port of delivery, has been about 1¼ per cent. and about 1½ per cent. more, between arrival and ſale, a ſpace, at
P. 259. an average, about ten days.

They put on board, for the negroes, proviſions conſidered ſufficient, with the addition of rice, which the captains might get on the coaſt. Wine was alſo ſupplied for the ſick ſlaves, and plenty of medicine.

They have attempted to buy ivory and camwood, the only produce in that part fit for a European market; and, to encourage their agent to procure theſe articles, have allowed him a commiſſion about three to one more than for buying ſlaves; yet not more than 120 tons of camwood in a year, and about three or four tons of ivory has been obtained.

A ſtatement from the books, bills of lading, and letters of the houſe, of the average mortality of the ſlaves, was delivered in at the table, and read; and is inſerted p. 260 of the Minutes at large. By that ſtatement it appears, that of 1318 ſlaves ſhipped, not one three-fourths per cent. died on the paſſage, and not one 1-fourth per cent died between arrivals and ſales; in all not three per cent. died.

P. 261. The houſe keeps conſiderable ſtores on the iſland, and factories, with goods on other parts of the coaſt.

They have an agent and ſeveral clerks on the iſland to buy ſlaves, camwood, and ivory, loading their ſhips with thoſe goods; and when their own ſhips are not on the coaſt, chartering others. The people on the iſland are altogether dependant on them.

The houſe had an intention of ſettling a cotton plantation in the neighbourhood, but were diſſuaded from it by their friends, who knew the impoſſibility of making the Africans labour, otherwiſe is certain from the lands and ſlaves they had, they muſt have made a good plantation. Has heard, that Mr. R. Oſwald, proprietor of the iſland for 20 or 30 years before they bought it, in 1785, had often regretted that he could not make the people labour; and, in

1783,

1783, he directed one of his captains to offer a premium to the natives for indigo and cotton, and that the ſlaves reſiding at Bance Iſland (Mr. Oſwald's order produced, ſee p. 283) might be employed in raiſing rice, but without effect. 1789.

A letter produced concerning a ſettlement at the mouth of the river S. Leone, of free negroes from this country. Their conduct, and a great mortality among them (ſee p. 271 to 278) Minutes at large.

A ſecond letter produced (ſee p. 279) Minutes at large.

The three voyages by the ſnow Mary in 1785, 1786, 1787, and the two of the ſhip Concord in 1787 and 1788, referred to in the ſtatement given in, he conſidered as profitable. P. 279.

Has no other account of voyages for ſlaves, beſides thoſe delivered in. P. 281.

The ſlaves are brought to the factories of the houſe, and a valuable conſideration paid for them by their agent. P. 282.

The ſlaves on Bance Iſland, called Grumettas, are generally good ſervants, though there are ſometimes complaints againſt them.

Witneſs examined—Captain JACOB LORAN.

Has been 20 years maſter in the Weſt India trade. Made 50 voyages in that time, reckoning out and home as two. P. 263.

In St. Kitts, there is an act againſt leaving ſailors on ſhore. The maſter, with one ſecurity, enters into a bond of £2000 currency, that he will carry off the ſailors he brought with him. This law extends to ſhips coming from other places, as well as Great Britain. Yet he could not prevent his ſailors from deſerting in the Weſt Indies. Has been often obliged to hire others to bring his ſhip home. Did not know from what veſſels they came. Some from P. 264.

merchantmen,

1789. merchantmen, ſome from Guineamen. Has had four, five, or ſix from Guineamen at a time. The ſailors in the African trade look on the Weſt Indies as a ſecond port of delivery, where many of them inſiſt on their diſcharge. They go into Weſt India ſhips which want hands, where they generally get more for the run home, than they would get by their months wages in the ſhip, African or other, they were in. Greater wages for the run home, is moſt certainly the reaſon, why ſailors belonging to African ſhips, wiſh to go into Weſt India ſhips.

Has known, in war, from 25 to 30 guineas, and as many gallons of rum, per man, given for the run home. In peace, from 7 to 10 guineas, according
P. 265. to circumſtances; and generally they agree for a gallon of rum for every guinea. In 1775, at Dominica, in the ſhip Amherſt, he engaged four by the run, and gave 8 guineas and 8 gallons of rum; but though he ſtill commands a ſhip, he knows of no ſuch thing in the preſent peace. That in every trade he has been in, ſeamen are engaged for the voyage out and home; but, upon getting to the Weſt Indies, they generally go on ſhore, get drunk, and the firſt captain who wants men, if he advance them a little money to pay their debt, will get them to go by the
P. 266. run. Thoſe in the Weſt India trade are not paid half wages there, nor are entitled to any, until a month after their return to the Thames. Seamen deſert in the Weſt Indies, both from African and Weſt India ſhips; can make no diſtinction. Has known the ſecurity, in ſuch a bond as he has mentioned, threatened; and has ſeen a ſecurity pay for a maſter £40 for a man left. Seamen deſerting from Weſt India ſhips, in the Weſt Indies, by the articles they ſign, forfeit all their wages

Seamen happened to be ſcarce when he was at Dominica, and ſhipped thoſe people, though it was not wholly owing to that, that he paid ſo much; for when he ſees a good hearty fellow that he can truſt in a gale of wind, he always gives him a guinea

or

or two more, than to a man he could not truſt. Be- 1789.
lieves one or two of his ſailors came out of a Guinea
ſhip. Has employed men out of the King's ſhips. P. 267.

Never ſold ſpirits, tobacco, or cloths to the ſeamen in his life.

Sailors often leave their ſhips in the Weſt Indies. Knew an inſtance about four months ago, where all the ſailors but one deſerted; not know the cauſe. Was never proſecuted on his bond for ſailors left behind, but has an account of a negro unintentionally carried off, whoſe value, £98 he was afterwards obliged to pay.

He never knew the owner or captain get a farth- P. 268.
ing by deſertion, though the articles ſtipulate that the wages ſhall go to them. When a ſeaman runs away, he generally applies to a lawyer, and the act is over-ruled generally. What is given to a ſailor for the run home, is generally a good deal more than the amount of wages due to him who deſerts; hence it is a heavy charge upon the ſhip to have their men run away. Does not know what becomes of the forfeited wages.

Weſt India ſhips deſire in general to come home P. 269.
ſtronger handed than they go out.

The crew of a Weſt India ſhip have their river pay, and in general a month's advance, on leaving Graveſend; and notes left with ſeveral of their wives, for ſo much a month till the ſhip's return. All which, in general, amounts to more than the wages due to the ſeaman at his deſertion; hence it is certainly for the owner's intereſt, that the ſame people who go out in his ſhip, ſhould return.

Ships of equal tonnage, by regiſter, very much differ in real tonnage. Suppoſe two ſhips of 300 tons each, carpenter's or regiſter tonnage, one nine feet depth of hold, the other twelve, the latter would certainly carry moſt.

Does not well know the conſtruction of African P. 270.
ſhips. Has ſometimes been on board them. Never

1789. was in the trade. Believes they are in general ſharp built, for ſailing. The Weſt India ſhips are built for burthen, full.

Witneſs examined—Captain JOHN MAN.

P. 284. Captain of the Grenville Bay, Weſt Indiaman. Has been nearly 20 years in the trade. About 16 years to Grenada, and 4 to Jamaica.

Is not, nor ever was, at all concerned in the African trade.

It is the law or practice, in Grenada and Jamaica, to compel the captains of Weſt India ſhips, to carry back all the ſailors they carried out.

It is in general very much an object to the ſailors, to get diſcharged from their ſhips in the Weſt Indies, that they may get home by the run.

Has always underſtood, but not from his own knowledge, that the Weſt Indies was conſidered as
P. 285. the ſecond port of delivery in the African trade.

It is common for ſailors to demand their diſcharge at the ſecond port of delivery.

In war, the pay they get for the run home, is more than their wages would have been, had they continued with the ſhip they came out in; but in peace it ſeldom is ſo much.

Has known them paid for the run home, in war, from 10 to 18 guineas, and ſometimes from 25 to 30 guineas; and generally a gallon of rum for every guinea.

Has ſhipped ſailors in the Weſt Indies, which have deſired, againſt the maſter's wiſh, to be diſcharged from African ſhips.

When the ſhip is entered at the Cuſtom Houſe, Grenada, the maſter muſt enter his muſter-roll, and
P. 286. with a ſurety, ſign a bond, each a £1000 penalty, that a ſingle man ſhall not be diſcharged. Yet ſailors very often get away in war; the temptation of going by the run in the Weſt Indies, may make them deſert; but believes this has little or no effect in peace.

End of Number I.

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